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CONTENTS

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

U.S. Plans Nuclear Explosion in Nevda; Commentary AA 1
U.S. Seeks Military Superiority [Ponomarev] AA 1
U.S. Militarism 'Poses Heightened Threat to Peace' AA 2
[Leontyev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Apr]
Israelyan Criticizes U.S. Stand on Nuclear Test Ban AA 3
Congressmen Urge Reagan To Observe SALT II AA 3

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

More on CEMA Planning Committee Meeting in Moscow BB 1
CEMA European Committee Delegate Addresses Meeting BB 1
[Korzhev]
CEMA Talks With Latin American Nations on Cooperation BB 1
Economic Cooperation Bank Council Meets in Moscow BB 2

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Libyan Presents Evidence of U.S. 'Bandit Attack' at UN CC 1
Denies U.S. Charge CC 1
IZVESTIYA on Implications of Libya Raid for NATO CC 1
[Matveyev, 18 Apr]

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Titan Rocket Explodes 'Seconds After Launch' A 1
'Launch Zone' Damaged A 1
60 Injured A 1
Further Reaction to U.S. Attack Against Libya A 1
PRAVDA Editorial Article A 1
[21 Apr]
'Hysteria' Grips Washington A 3
[Vasilyev in PRAVDA 19 Apr]
'Crude Force' Noted A 6
[Geyvandov in IZVESTIYA 19 Apr]
'Cynicism' Characterizes U.S. Position A 7
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 19 Apr]
U.S. Actions 'Gangster-like' A 8
[Dobrokhotov in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 19 Apr]
Proof of Terrorism 'Fictional' A 10
[Kalyagin]
'Piratic Strategy' Revealed A 11
[Kornilov]
Bosses Try To Cover Tracks A 12
U.S. Using 'Propaganda Tricks' A 13
[Solton]

NORTHEAST ASIA

USSR-Japan Economic Cooperation Talks Conclude C 1
U.S. Bombing Attacks Against Libya Condemned C 1
MPR Condemns Attacks C 1
DPRK Condemns 'Brigand' Action C 2
U.S., ROK End 'Team Spirit-86' Exercises C 2

SOUTH ASIA

DRA's Keshmand Arrives in Moscow on Official Visit D 1
DRA Protests Pakistani Violations of Airspace D 1
Afghan Peace Organization Condemns Attack on Libya D 1
Indian CP Denounces U.S. Attack on Libya D 2
Protestors Besiege U.S. Embassy in New Delhi D 2

EASTERN EUROPE

Reportage on CPSU General Secretary Secretary's Visit to GDR F 1
Discusses Palestinian Unity With 'Arafat [Baghdad Voice of PLO] F 1
Supports Palestinian Dialogue [Manama WAKH] F 1
Visits Treptow Memorial F 2
Attends German Youth Rally F 3
Visits Friedrichsfelde Memorial F 3
Comments on Prospects for U.S. Summit F 3
Meets Honecker F 6
TASS Reports Honecker Address to 11th SED Congress F 6

WESTERN EUROPE

Further Reaction to UK Support for Libya Raid G 1
Support 'Vicious in Principle' G 1
[Yevstigneyev]
EEC Ministers React G 1
[Pasko]
Karpov Conducts Disarmament Talks in Britain G 2
Presidium Appoints Kvitsinskiy Envoy to FRG G 2
[PRAVDA 18 Apr]
Reportage on FRG Greens Party Delegation G 2
Delegation Arrives G 2
[PRAVDA 15 Apr]
Yeltsin Receives Greens G 3
Zimyanin, Zagladin Meet Delegation G 3
[PRAVDA 20 Apr]
Officials See Off Greens G 4

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Indignation Expressed at U.S. Raid on Libya; Reports H 1
Jallud Speaks to Press H 1
Al-Humaydi Addresses Funeral [Shelenkov, Bogachev] H 1
People's Committee Protests Raid H 1
Nonaligned Delegation Arrives H 2
Soviet Ship Departs for Libya H 2
Parliamentary Group Comments H 2
Soviet People Express Support H 3

'Many' Civilians Hit by Bombers H 3
Al-Qadhdhafi Death Sought H 3
Tripoli Remains Alert [Shelenkov] H 4
Bomb Explodes Near Airport H 5
Number of Victims Grows [Bogachev, Shelenkov] H 5
Iraqi Leader Ramadan Concludes Visit to Moscow H 6
Meeting With Ryzhkov H 6
Arkhipov Concludes Talks H 6
Tolkunov-Led Delegation Tours Tunisia H 6
Al-Jumayyil Discusses UNIFIL With Soviet Envoy H 7
Foreign Ministry Official Welcomes UAE Embassy H 7
[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 18 Apr]

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Nicaragua States Readiness To Sign 'Peace Act' K 1
Anti-U.S. Demonstrations in Nicaragua Reported K 1
Latin American Countries Condemn Attack on Libya K 2

U.S. PLANS NUCLEAR EXPLOSION IN NEVADA; COMMENTARY

LD211021 Moscow TASS in English 1014 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 21 TASS -- The UPI news agency reported today quoting Jim Boyer, U.S. Department of Energy spokesman, that the second nuclear explosion planned by the Pentagon was to be conducted tomorrow, Tuesday morning [22 April] at a test site in Nevada.

The new test is codenames "Jefferson." A nuclear device with a capacity 20-150 kilotons is buried at a depth of 600 m at a test site in Nevada, 167 km north-west of Las Vegas.

U.S. Seeks Military Superiority

LD192111 Moscow TASS in English 2055 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS - Follows commentary by Leonid Ponomarev, a TASS political news analyst:

The U.S. Administration is preparing to conduct another three test of new types of nuclear weapons in Nevada state, the newspaper SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER said. All of these tests are to be conducted before the end of this month. On March 22 and April 10 two sinister nuclear tests were held in the same proving range, despite the fact that the Soviet Union has refrained from any nuclear explosions for more than eight months now.

The actions of the U.S. Administration clearly show that it continues to be guided by selfish, imperial ambitions, in its striving to ensure military superiority over the Soviet Union. Addressing the local Republican Party activists in New York yesterday, President Reagan said that the United States needed a powerful and unexcelled force. In other words, the USA is out to ensure for itself military superiority over the rest of the world in order to be able to pursue the policy of hegemonism and state-sponsored terrorism with impunity.

But this statement in New York is in conflict with the stand taken by the U.S. President at Geneva. At the Soviet-American summit meeting he put his signature under a joint statement, saying, among other things, that the USSR and the USA will not seek to achieve military superiority. As we see, what was proclaimed at Geneva and what President Reagan declared in New York yesterday are mutually exclusive things. One cannot help asking in this connection in what measure one can trust the international commitments of the United States.

The continued nuclear testing by the United States, in whose course new types of mass destruction weapons are practised and perfected, is not only an open challenge to the Soviet Union, but also to the peoples of all continents, the world as a whole.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly given the U.S. Administration a chance to confirm by practical actions its statement on the striving for a nuclear-free world, and join in the Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions. They in Washington are disregarding this opportunity.

Contrary to the vital interests and aspirations of all people, including the American people, the United States leaders have embarked on actually undermining the Geneva Agreement. Their actions further complicate the tense as it is international situation.

U.S. MILITARISM 'POSES HEIGHTENED THREAT TO PEACE'

PM141600 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 86 Second Edition p 3

[A. Leontyev article under the "Publicist's Comment" rubric: "Ordering Explosions"]

[Text] Some time ago a millionaire senator, known for his links with the Pentagon, said in reply to a journalist's question on whether the testing of new weapons would affect the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva: "I do not care what effect it has. The main thing is that it meets the basic aims of the United States." Millionaires are primarily interested in profits. For the sake of profits they are prepared to play with fire in the most dangerous ways, even though the nuclear arms race now threatens to destroy all life on earth. War will not spare even those with the fattest checkbooks. Why, then, do many people in Washington show a truly casual attitude (it cannot be called anything else) toward the nuclear danger? After all, Americans need peace as much as anybody else.

It is still not too late to halt the nuclear race. How is this to be done? The first step could be to end nuclear explosions. That would create a barrier to the improvement of nuclear weapons and the creation of new types. This move would also be of tremendous political and, indeed, moral significance as an example of joint actions by two great powers -- the USSR and the United States -- on whom a special responsibility rests.

In trying to achieve that goal more quickly, on 6 August last year the Soviet Union imposed a unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions until the end of 1985. We proposed that the Americans accept the moratorium and make it permanent. Their answer was to invite us to a routine nuclear test in Nevada. Before the New Year we extend our moratorium for an additional 3 months. They answered with new explosions. Finally, and quite recently, the USSR decided to abide by that moratorium after March 31, also -- until the U.S. side's first explosion. Washington was offered a another chance to take a responsible decision -- that is, to end nuclear explosions. Otherwise, as M.S. Gorbachev warned, the Soviet Union would resume its tests. That point must be absolutely clear. We shall be forced to do that because we cannot forgo our security or the security of our allies.

At the same time, M.S. Gorbachev sent an appeal to President Reagan not to delay but to meet in the near future in a European capital with the aim of urgently discussing the question of ending nuclear tests. However, the White House hastily rejected even that proposal, saying that "summit meetings should examine the whole range of important questions between the two countries."

How much arrogance and conceit there is in those words and how little reason! But why not discuss at least one major, present-day question, which all the peoples are demanding be resolved most rapidly? As for the moratorium on nuclear explosions, the White House believes that those explosions should continue in order "to ensure the reliability, security, and effectiveness of the nuclear deterrent." For how long, one wonders? Until those explosions turn into a universal explosion, after which there will be no one left to deter any more?

When rejecting the Soviet proposal the White House stated, as it has stated in the past, that U.S. policy's ultimate goal is the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. However, as THE WASHINGTON POST reports, many of the 16 tests planned for this year are connected with the development [razrabotka] of new types of weapons, primarily for "star wars." What kind of "elimination" is that?

There is every evidence, NBC TV reports, that "an increasing number of people, including Americans, and, possibly, primarily Americans, want steps to be taken to control nuclear arms. But the U.S. Administration is now stockpiling nuclear armaments faster than at any time in the past 20 years."

Recently, Washington launched a series of deliberate acts of provocation aimed at complicating the the international situation and arousing chauvinist hysteria in the United States. Aggression against the heroic Nicaraguan people was increased to howls about the Soviet and Cuban "threat." U.S. aircraft carriers were dispatched to Libya's shores. Modern weapons are being supplied to counterrevolutionary gangs in Afghanistan and Angola. To justify the aggressive actions they rapidly devised the doctrine of "neoglobalism" -- a doctrine of interference, strong-arm pressure, military adventures, and banditry. It is now particularly clear just who is who in world politics and who needs acts of provocation and nuclear explosions. Militarism, whose ideology prevails in the leading imperialist countries, has completely unmasked itself. It poses a heightened threat to peace. This proves once again that you must struggle for peace and know how to defend it.

ISRAELYAN CRITICIZES U.S. STAND ON NUCLEAR TEST BAN

PM181459 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "At the Disarmament Conference"]

[Text] Geneva, 16 Apr -- The Soviet delegation at the Geneva disarmament conference has issued as an official document the Soviet Government statement in connection with the new nuclear explosion carried out by the United States on 10 April. Speaking at a plenary session, V.L. Israelyan, head of the Soviet delegation, stated that the Soviet Union, by twice extending its moratorium despite provocative U.S. challenges, has demonstrated in practice its sincere desire to use any opportunity to turn the unilateral morotorium into a bilateral moratorium and thereby begin a move toward the conclusion of a treaty on banning nuclear tests. Clearly, he went on to say, aware of the reaction they would have to encounter, U.S. officials have recently been bending over backward to prove the unprovable to their people and the entire world -- namely the need and even the "usefulness" of continuing tests. Nonetheless, it is clear to all sober-minded people that the United States needs nuclear tests in order to guarantee itself a position of strength and a position of deterrence, that is what the U.S. Administration's practical actions are aimed at. The Soviet representative also noted that the falsehood of the widely trumpeted U.S. adherence to peace has been seen in the U.S. Armed Forces' barbarous attack on Libya.

The Soviet Union will not give up the struggle to end nuclear weapons tests, V.L. Israelyan said. We reaffirm our proposal to immediately start talks on the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons tests. The Soviet Union's position in favor of starting multilateral talks within the framework of the disarmament conference remains unchanged.

CONGRESSMEN URGE REAGAN TO OBSERVE SALT II

LD200342 Moscow TASS in English 2247 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 20 TASS -- More than a half of members of the U.S. House of Representatives have urged President Reagan to observe the quantitative limitations on strategic weapons imposed by the SALT-2 treaty. The appeal has been signed by 221 out of 435 members of the House of Representatives, including 22 Republicans and 199 Democrats. Earlier a similar call to the U.S. President was addressed by 55 senators.

MORE ON CEMA PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING IN MOSCOW

LD190415 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Report from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] From 15 to 16 April, the 38th Session of the CEMA Committee on Cooperation in the Sphere of Planning Activity was held in Moscow. The session was chaired by Comrade Talyzin. The committee approved for submission to a session of the Council a report on results of coordination of national economic plans of the CEMA member-countries for 1986-90 and a draft coordinated plan of multilateral integration measures by the member-countries of CEMA for the same period. The committee examined questions concerning the construction of the gas pipeline from Yamburg to the western border of the USSR. A report of the session of the CEMA Committee on Cooperation in the Sphere of Planning Activity is published in the press.

CEMA EUROPEAN COMMITTEE DELEGATE ADDRESSES MEETING

LD190407 Moscow TASS in English 2224 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Geneva April 17 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev reports:

"The efforts of the countries of the socialist community aimed at relieving the international situation constitute an important factor in an improvement of the political climate in Europe and throughout the world", stated Zdislaw Kurowski, the leader of the delegation of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA). Speaking today at a session of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), he pointed out as major initiatives taken in this direction the Soviet programme for complete elimination of weapons of mass destruction, the programme supported by the other CMEA countries, as well as the address of the Warsaw Treaty member-states on the establishment of nuclear-free zones in Europe.

With a view to ensuring international economic security, the speaker pointed out, CMEA countries come out against the use of methods of force, and are in favour of a constructive dialogue and joint actions in the solution of international economic and social matters. CMEA countries have already set about implementing programmes based on a long-term strategy for economic development and deeper cooperation.

The tasks set by the congresses of the communist and workers' parties of these countries envisage higher rates and efficiency of economic development through the acceleration of scientific and technological progress, through refinement of societal relations and management systems, deeper cooperation and socialist economic integration. It is also suggested that greater scope be given to versatile mutually beneficial cooperation with other countries in the world.

CEMA TALKS WITH LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS ON COOPERATION

LD190734 Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 18 TASS -- More than 300 industrial and other projects have been built or are under construction in Latin American countries today with the assistance of the countries of the socialist community. These include power plants in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Mexico and Uruguay with an aggregate capacity of 8,700 megawatts.

Talks are under way on building new power plants with a capacity of 5,800 megawatt, TASS has been told by the CMEA Secretariat in connection with the 21st Session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, which opened in Mexico City on April 17.

Agreements on cooepration between CMEA and Mexico and Nicaragua are being effectively fulfilled. Work is now under way in Nicaragua on about 30 major projects in geologic survey, power engineering, mining, the agri-industry, fishing, transport and training of national personnel. Almost 13,000 Nicaraguans will study in socialist community countries in 1986-1990, with 460 of them granted CMEA scholarships.

Cooperation is being developed between CMEA countries' organizations and Latin American companies on the markets of third countries. This cooperation was ushered in by Soviet-Brazilian partnership in building the Clanda hydro-power station in Angola.

The comprehensive program for the scientific and technological progress of the CMEA member-countries is opening broad prospects for the development of cooperation. Its implementation will make it possible to increase aid to Latin American countries in getting new technology and processes and in accelerating scientific and technological progress. Brazilian companies have bought from the USSR licenses for continuous steel casting processes, a unit for dry coke quenching, underground coal gasification and the production of ball mills.

The CMEA member-countries for their part are displaying an increasing interest in technology and processes offered by Latin American countries.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION BANK COUNCIL MEETS IN MOSCOW

PM151834 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general headline "Official Reports"]

[Text] A routine session of the International Bank for Economic Cooperation Council was held in Moscow 10-11 April. Delegations of countries belonging to the bank council -- Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR, the CSSR -- and representatives of the CEMA Secretariat, the International Investment Bank, the National Bank of Yugoslavia, the (DA) Afghanistan Bank, the State Bank of Laos, the Bank of Finland, the National Bank of Ethiopia, the African Development Bank, the Bank of Ethiopia, and the Bank for International Settlements took part in it.

The council approved the activity of the International Bank for Economic Cooperation in 1985, which had energetically helped to systematically develop member-countries' national economies, deepen socialist economic integration, and expand member-countries' foreign economic ties with other states. A report on the bank's activity in 1985, the balance as of 1 January 1986, and the bank's profit in 1985 were confirmed, and the International Bank for Economic Cooperation's credit plan for the current year was examined. The council appointed the bank's auditing commission for the next 2-year period and took decisions on other questions concerning the bank's current and future activity.

The session proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship, comradely cooperation, and complete mutual understanding.

LIBYAN PRESENTS EVIDENCE OF U.S. 'BANDIT ATTACK' AT UN

LD200844 Moscow TASS in English 0626 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 19 [date as received] TASS -- Evidence of the American banditry in Libya has been presented to the members of the U.N. Security Council. One cannot look without pain and anger at the photographs of children villainously killed by the U.S. air pirates on the orders of the White House. The photographs were brought to the meeting of the Security Council discussing the U.S. bandit attack against Libya by 'Ali al-Turayki, Libya's permanent representative to the U.N. On Friday, he said, Libya buried the victims of the raid launched by the American barbarians. They were old people, women and children, a lot of children. Washington is lying, when claiming that the bombs were dropped on "military targets". They aimed at residential neighbourhoods. The killed children is what they in Washington implied by "successful accomplishment of the combat mission".

The Washington representatives were trying to use as a cover for their fresh crime slanders against...the Soviet Union. To this end the U.S. permanent mission to the U.N. went so far as to spread a faked report on "sufferings" of thousands of Afghan children through the fault of the Soviet Union.

There is no denying that Afghan children are suffering, but as a result of the dirty war waged by the U.S. imperialism against our people, a TASS correspondent was told by Ebrahim Nengrahary, DRA's charge d'affaires to the U.N. The Soviet friends assist us in building schools, hospitals and kindergartens. Meanwhile, bandits armed to the teeth, who are sent by the CIA, kill children, slaughter teachers and physicians. Over the years after the victory of the April Revolution, they have destroyed more than a half of all the medical institutions, 2,700 schools and killed 2,000 teachers. The American barbarians and their hired butchers kill Afghan children in an attempt at destroying the country's future. They will never evade responsibility for these crimes, he stressed.

Denies U.S. Charge

LD210903 Moscow TASS in English 0648 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 21 TASS -- Libya's permanent representative to the United Nations, 'Ali A. al-Turayki, has denied the provocative charges of the Reagan administration that his country is involved in international terrorism. We are resolutely against acts of terrorism and are prepared to cooperate with other countries to put an end to this menance, he said in a CNN programme. But Libya will never give up its support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people for their inalienable rights or for the struggle of the oppressed peoples of South Africa against apartheid, he stressed.

IZVESTIYA ON IMPLICATIONS OF LIBYA RAID FOR NATO

PM181259 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 6

[Political Observer Vikentiy Matveyev article: "When Sovereignty Is a Hindrance..."]

[Text] Death rained down on Libyans not only from U.S. carrier-based aircraft but also from bombers stationed at U.S. bases on British soil.

These bases are part of the NATO command structure. And General Rogers, as commander in chief of NATO's armed forces in Europe, sanctioned those Pentagon orders. Thus, the Atlantic bloc has been used as a weapon against the sovereignty of an Arab country with a small population.

What is happening here? NATO has been drawn into the "Reagan doctrine." By its banditry the U.S. military has "involved" that bloc in the aggression against Libya at a time when the majority of bloc member-countries have dissociated themselves from those U.S. actions and some governments have even gone so far as to condemn Washington's operations.

But the M.Thatcher cabinet went behind the nation's back when it agreed to allow the F-111 aircraft to fly out of bases in Britain. Parliament was not informed in advance. Its opinion was not sought. With the exception of the Conservatives, members of all the parties represented there expressed their indignation. And even among Conservative ranks there is no particular solidarity. Former Prime Minister E. Heath and some other prominent Conservatives openly opposed the government's decisions.

You do not have to explore the subtleties of international law to see how the U.S. ruling circles are flouting the elementary norms of that law. If you consider NATO's functions, even from the formal viewpoint, it is obvious how this bloc is being used against a country in a region outside its sphere of operations. A sinister precedent is thus being created...

The circumstances occurring before the U.S. aggression against Libya began are also indicative. As the British press writes, U.S. warplanes brought across the Atlantic "unexpectedly" began landing at the U.S. bases in Britain. That was in addition to those already stationed at the U.S. bases in the British Isles. When Washington's special envoy arrived in London to secure agreement for the use of the U.S. bases, the relevant Pentagon strike force was already in Britain. There was no mention of Britain's sovereign rights.

That was how the NATO mechanism, activated by the U.S. key, operated with regard to Britain. But the matter does not concern Britain alone. There are U.S. bases in other West European countries. And they include nuclear missiles bases.

Washington officials are now looking at the Persian Gulf, for example, hinting at the possibility of "activating" the U.S. Armed Forces based there. What new U.S. ally in Western Europe will have to face pressure from the transatlantic military if the latter dreams up new adventures? And what will be the consequences?

These are not abstract questions.

TITAN ROCKET EXPLODES 'SECONDS AFTER LAUNCH'

'Launch Zone' Damaged

LD182320 Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 19 TASS -- An official spokesman for the Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, has confirmed by telephone to a TASS correspondent that a Titan-34 D booster rocket exploded in air several seconds after launch on Friday.

The Air Force spokesman claimed that the blast damaged an area limited by the "launch zone."

According to an ASSOCIATED PRESS report, however, an order was issued that children from the adjoining region be held inside the safety's sake.

The Vandenberg Base spokesman told TASS that an investigation was launched to determine the causes of the blast.

The launch was conducted within the framework of the Pentagon's space programme. According to UPI, the rocket was to have placed in orbit one more spy satellite.

60 Injured

LD191553 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] We have already reported the explosion at an Air Force base in the United States of a "Titan-34" carrier rocket, which was launched in compliance with the Pentagon's space program.

According to UPI, the rocket had to orbit yet another spy satellite. News agencies report that a fire broke out at the launching pad; about 60 people have been treated for skin and eye irritation and three have been hospitalized. The curious thing is, many of the victims were approximately 5 km from the launching site. After the Challenger disaster, the U.S. Defense Department has been expanding use of single-use carrier rockets for space-lifting its cargoes.

This explosion points out again the danger of putting human lives into direct dependence on technology, no matter how safe the latter might be.

FURTHER REACTION TO U.S. ATTACK AGAINST LIBYA

PRAVDA Editorial Article

PM210839 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Editorial article: " A Telling Blow to the Aggressor"]

[Text] Another act of international banditry -- aggressive actions against sovereign Libya -- has been added to the list of the bloody crimes perpetrated by the U.S. military.

Bombing and missile attacks of the U.S. Air Force were directed against the residential neighborhoods of Tripoli, Banghazi, and other Libyan cities. Among the casualties are hundreds of people.

The world wrathfully condemns these brutal bombing raids. Mass protest rallies are being held in many countries. Many participants in the scheduled session of the Stockholm Conference have strongly condemned the U.S. brigand attack. The world stigmatizes those in the United States who are responsible for that massacre and their assistants in Britain, who oblingingly allowed the use of their territory for the take-off of the piratic armada of F-111 fighter-bombers.

The action, which no arguments can justify, is one of the links in the impudent provocative actions by the United States taken in response to the Soviet Union's peace initiatives. These actions are aimed at frustrating the search of ways to improve international relations. The U.S. attack against a sovereign Arab state is an act of terrorism, of flouting the basic norms of international law and international relations.

On these troubled days the leaders of the United States and Britain -- of the aggressor and its assistant -- allow themselves to put forward cynical arguments to substantiate "the lawfulness" of their actions. They have the insolence to quote Article 51 of the UN Charter, providing for the right to self-defence in the event of an armed attack against a member-country of the organization.

Indeed, there is no limit to the hypocrisy of the advocates of aggression.

U.S. officials arrogantly say that the administration does not intend to reconsider its current policy vis-a-vis Libya, notwithstanding the protests of European public and governments of dozens of countries.

Washington's political leaders have embarked on openly deceiving American public and international public opinion as a whole. In kindling chauvinistic passions and preaching the idea that the U.S. military machines is allowed to do everything it wishes, they are trying to picture things as if the attack against Libya is proceeding without impunity.

Both George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, and Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defense, claim that the United States lost only one aircraft.

Meanwhile, according to the data of objective control of the Libyan air defenses, over the 2 days -- 15 and 16 April, the American air pirates launched several bombing raids on Libyan cities with the participation of dozens of F-111 aircraft from air bases in Britain and carrier-borne fighter-bombers from the aircraft carriers America and Coral Sea. Despite the sudden missile and bomb attack, which was launched in a brigand manner from around the corner, the Libyan Armed Forces succeeded in effectively using their organic weapons to down during the first American raid one F-111 and several carrier-borne aircraft. In the course of the subsequent raids, several more carrier-borne aircraft were brought down. The wreckage of two American aircraft was found on the ground. The fall into the sea of another two aircraft was registered by radio engine ring equipment and by visual observation.

Thus, the American losses on 15 and 16 April are not quite that "insignificant," as the U.S. propaganda machinery is trying to claim.

In these difficult days for Libya, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries gave important moral and political support.

Our stand has been explicitly expressed in the message of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, saying theat "the Soviet Union firmly intends to continue to meet its commitments regarding a fruther strengthening of Libya's defensive capacity."

While speaking about a peaceful settlement of conflicts in Asia, Africa, and Central America, official Washington is practising in action crude violence, aggression, and belligerent chauvinism. The administration is now doing its utmost to whip up anti-Libyan hysteria in the United States. The actions of American pilots, who killed women, old people, and children, are pictured as lofty "courage" and "heroism." They are also advertising the strength and superiority of American weapons and praising to the skies the American men, who covered more than 5,000 km in their advanced aircraft, who used with high accuracy 225 kg and 800 kg laser guided smart bombs and HARM and Shrike missiles.

Yet, the White House is concealing the truth from its people and the world community, which is that the task set to the American military to "teach" Libya a lesson, has failed. The aggressor itself has been punished, including in political terms, and got its deserts.

Irresponsibility and adventurism have always been dangerous, especially in this day.

Hysteria Grips Washington

PM181605 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 86 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent O. Vasilyev report: "The Recklessness of Strength: Raging Chauvinism and Militarism in the United States"]

[Text] New York, Apr -- The air smelled of gunpowder. Reports from the television companies' correspondents in Tripoli brought the echoes of exploding bombs and antiaircraft gunfire. A White House correspondent, appearing against the background of the floodlit residence, reported that at precisely that moment, on the order of the master of the house, American bombers were dropping their lethal cargo on Libyan settlements. Following the terminology which has become established here, the correspondent called them "terrorist bases." It became clear that among these "nests of international terrorism" which were bombed were the French Embassy and the Japanese ambassador's residence, located in densely populated districts of Tripoli. Reports began to come in that American bombs had fallen on multistory apartment blocks and that many peaceful inhabitants had been killed or wounded.

Soon the "heroes of the day" appeared on the screens -- U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger and Secretary of State G. Shultz. Then the television cameras were switched on in the Oval Office of the White House, and President Reagan appeared before millions of worried American. Like his closest advisers, the country's head of state and government, also commander in chief of its Armed Forces, spoke of the "struggle against terrorism, and the fact that the massive bomb strikes by the American military machine against that Arab country were carried out by the United States "in self-defense." He also cited Article 51 of the UN Charter on every state's right to self-defense. You would have thought that instead of American planes invading Libya's airspace like thieves in the night, Libyan subunits had crossed the U.S. border.

The records set for hypocrisy by the U.S. Administration during these hours marked the apex of the chauvinist hysteria which has gripped official Washington and the mass media here in recent days, making even those who usually display sobriety and common sense keep quiet. The U.S. Congress, that public herald of "human rights," "democracy" and "law," was a pitiful spectacle. Only a few of the legislators dared timidly to voice fears about the possible negative consequences of the Pentagon's acts of brigandage.

The majority decided not to risk their careers, and took the usual course, at times of military crisis, of "rallying round the commander in chief."

Moreover, immediately after the piratical acts against Libya a group of senators and congressmen submitted for consideration by the two chambers a draft law which would give the President the right, without any consultations and without informing Congress, on the pretext of the "struggle against terrorism," to give the order for punitive acts, including military strikes, against any country. AP stresses that this draft law, if adopted, "would enable the President to sanction military actions, including political assassinations" of other states' leaders.

The massive offensive against the Americans' common sense is nothing new. The bravura presentation of aggressive acts of interference in other countries' affairs as "heroic" deeds in the name of "America the Great" and of "freedom" has acquired an unusually stupefying force, especially since the invasion of Grenada. And that force is increasingly suppressing people's sense of justice and is knocking into many people's heads the pernicious ideas of U.S. "superiority," of its "right" to commit any lawless act in the world as long as it is justified in terms of the "defense of U.S. interests."

Now, after the acts of aggression against Libya, terrorism at state level has shown itself to the world in its most overt and repulsive form -- terrorism backed by the might of the military machine of a great power (how absurd those words sound in the context of what has just been perpetrated!), of a country which has taken no account of the provisions of international law or the elementary norms of civilized relations between peoples. "The arrogance of power" -- an expression forged by former senator W. Fulbright during the United States' war against Vietnam -- was manifested in the actions of that country's government as though it were not the 20th century outside but the end of the 19th century when, launching warships and marines into battle, America asserted itself in the role of the young capitalist power which had entered the world arena.

In undertaking acts of aggression against liberated countries Washington disregards not only the norms accepted in relations between civilized peoples but also the ability of Americans themselves to compare the facts and comprehend them. Some 3 weeks ago, when the U.S. 6th Fleet undertook its piratical military actions against Libya in the Gulf of Sidra, this was allegedly motivated by the U.S. desire "to defend the right of peaceful navigation" in international waters. Now the U.S. military's bloody crime is being presented as a "response to the actions of international terrorists" who organized the blowing up of the discotheque in West Berlin. (The Government of the Libyan Jamahiriyah has resolutely denied involvement in this senseless crime). In reality the Pentagon's anti-Libyan bandit actions are the result of plans elaborated on the banks of the Potomac whose main aim is to subjugate and re-enslave the peoples of the developing countries and to undermine and suppress the national liberation movements and regimes inconvenient to U.S. imperialism.

The forces of imperialism, U.S. imperialism above all, are trying everything to crush and destroy the liberated countries and to halt the march of history: economic sabotage, political provocations, and direct strong-arm pressure. This course has been underpinned by the hastily elaborated "new globalism doctrine" which in general terms contains nothing new but attempts to return to the old, classic system of piracy.

What was undertaken against Libya is by no means an impulsive act, not a spontaneous reaction to "the onslaughts of international terrorists," as people here are trying to portray it. THE WASHINGTON POST correspondents G. Wilson and D. Hoffman report that "the joint bomb strikes by U.S. naval and air forces were planned over several months," long before the explosion at the West Berlin discotheque.

American and foreign newspapers have recently been writing a lot about the debate deep within the Washington administration, in which chauvinism has increasingly been gaining the upper hand and the most reactionary and most aggressive elements have the last word. During these closed meetings -- one was held in mid-January with the participation of Weinberger, Shultz, Jeane Kirkpatrick, former U.S. representative at the United Nations well known for her extremist views, and CIA representatives -- the outlines of the so-called "Reagan doctrine" or the "doctrine of neoglobalism" were defined. Describing the sentiments prevailing in "theoreticians" and practitioners of reviving the old concepts of imperialist piracy in a new guise, the French newspaper LE FIGARO writes that these people believe that, after the recent decades of America's failures and climb-downs -- in Korea, in Vietnam, and even in Iran -- "the time has come to win back the lost territory."

The bombs dropped on Libyan cities and settlements were directed not only at that country's people and the peoples of the Near East as a whole, where the United States is endeavoring by all means to establish its military-strategic and economic supremacy. Their blast wave was addressed to the peoples of the whole world, including the American people. On a narrow, specific plane the storm of chauvinism currently being fanned in the United States is to help the administration to get through Congress multibillion-dollar military appropriations which have been under threat of a certain reduction and to force through Congress a $100 million "gift" to the Nicaraguan "contras" waging a criminal war against Sandino's country under the leadership of CIA and Pentagon instructors (the House of Representatives voted against this bill, while the Senate voted for it, and a new, decisive vote is to be held).

On the broad plane, the frightening actions against Libya, according to the plans of their initiators, are meant to reverse the process of improvement in the international situation, which is so not to their liking, and to halt the growth of peace-loving sentiments among the American and the foreign public.

U.S. imperialism's bloody new crimes against Libya rank with other actions by Washington, such as the intensification of military pressure on Nicaragua, the continuation of nuclear weapon tests, the incursion into USSR territorial waters by American warships, and the unlawful actions against the UN missions of the USSR, the Ukrainian SSR, and the Belorussian SSR. Alarmed that the summit meeting has partially opened the door to the world of hope, the servants of the U.S. military-industrial complex are in a hurry to slam it shut as quickly as possible.

Turbid streams of chauvinism are flowing from the pages of bourgeois newspapers. "United States delivers crushing blow against Libya!" proclaim the huge letters filling the entire front page of New York's DAILY NEWS. "Take that, Al-Qadhdhafi!" the the NEW YORK POST says in militarist, jingoistic hysteria. Gangster terminology fills the articles in the most popular U.S. newspapers, extolling the U.S. military's "exploit." Just as with the intervention on Grenada, the aggressive operations by the U.S. Navy and Air Force against Libya have aroused a wave of jingoistic feelings in the country, whipped up by the press.

Against the backdrop of this wave of unbridled chauvinism, various right-wing and extreme right-wing organizations have reared their heads, reasserting their existence and influence within the country. Having taken the bait of a propaganda campaign inspired by official Washington, the politically ill-informed and reactionaries of all types are thirsting for fresh blood, demanding that the bombing of Libyan cities continue, and urging that "Libya be brought to its knees."

Nevertheless, to the Americans' honor they are by no means all exulting these days. This is how USA TODAY characterizes Americans' reaction to the recent events: "Shock, Fear, Pride." Let us note that the authors of the report placed "pride" last as USA TODAY writes, many people in the country fear that the expansion of the Pentagon's actions in the Near East will involve the country in a new Vietnam.

But the press and television continue to describe in glowing terms the results of the U.S. military's "professional actions" (C. Weinberger's expression) against the Libyan people. When Americans open their newspaper or switch on their television sets they see ruins of houses in Triploi, the dead or wounded being carried away on stretchers, the suffering eyes of children, and the tearstained faces of adults. "Our boys carried out their mission successfully," a TV program anchorman announced without a shadow of embarrassment or shame.

The newspapers report that the various explosives dropped on the Libyans included laser-guided "smart bombs," as they are called. "Smart bombs!" Can there be anything more blasphemous or monstrous! You cannot help wondering: If bombs which kill civilians have minds, what kind of minds do those politicians have who issue the order to drop this lethal load on the cities and settlements of an independent country? What kind of political responsibility do they have?

People here are trying to present the U.S. military's bandit actions against Libya as a just and almost noble cause. In actual fact it is an outrageous affront to international law and the elementary norms of human morality. Yet another ignominious page has been written in the history of imperialism's bloody crimes.

'Crude Force' Noted

PM181716 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA political observer K. Geyvandov article: "Along a Well-Trodden Path"]

[Text] The situation in the southern Mediterranean and the Near East remains tense following the U.S. aggression against Libya. President Reagan states that this is only the first battle which logically must be followed by others. In this instance the head of the White House can be believed since it is clear from everything that Washington does not intend to seek new paths in Near East affairs. It has decided to simply follow the path which the Israeli aggressors have long since trodden here, continuing to rely on crude force in the matter of a "settlement" of the Arab-Israeli conflict and "pacification" in the region in the American style.

There is no doubt that precisely this was one of the objectives of the U.S. armed aggression against Libya. For it is well known that the Libyan leadership is in the front ranks of those leaders of the Arab world who are categorically against separate deals with the American-Israeli "strategic allies." It advocates an all-embracing and just Near East settlement and actively supports the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine for the restoration of their trampled national rights. In Washington this position is declared "terrorist activity," which allegedly gives it the right to carry out the actions initiated on 25 March by the U.S. bombing of Libya.

Having studied the American-Israeli partners' conduct in the Near East crisis on the basis of the experience of recent decades the following prediction can be made: Encouraged by the armed aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah, Washington and Tel Aviv, judging by everything, will make further attempts in the near future to persuade Arab states into separate deals with Israel. In fact, preparatory work in this direction has already begun with the visits to the region by U.S. Vice President Bush and State Department representative Murphy. I have no doubt that they were specially timed to coincide with the beginning of the aggression against Libya.

The leaders of the Arab countries, I believe, are aware of the sinister purpose of the U.S. aggression against Libya. For if immediate measures to deal a rebuff are not taken today, tomorrow any other Near East state could become the object of armed violence by Washington with all the ensuing consequences. The "activity" of the American-Israeli allies leaves no doubt at all about this.

It is reported that a number of leaders of Arab countries have proposed an emergency summit conference which could be held in the very near future. In this context attention is attracted by the wish expressed by M. al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, who stated: "As a result of the crude aggression committed by the United States we have been presented with a historic opportunity to realize where our strength lies. Our strength lies in unity."

'Cynicism' Characterizes U.S. Position

PM181437 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 19 Apr 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "The U.S. Position in Connection with the Attack on Libya"]

[Text] Washington, 18 Apr -- Official Washington's current position in connection with the terrorist act against Libya can be characterized as extreme cynicism, denying the obvious, and totally ignoring the tragic consequences of the bandit U.S. attack on that sovereign state.

Reagan still believes that "he acted absolutely correctly" with regard to Libya, the President's Deputy Press Secretary Speakes stated frankly. In answer to one question the White House spokesman said brazenly that the United States "knows nothing" about the death of the 18-month-old daughter of M. al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, as a result of the raid by American bombers. "We have seen no documents attesting to her identity," he said. CBS television reported that deaths among the civilian population in Libya were in effect "planned" in advance by the Pentagon.

New facts are being made public to the effect that one of the main aims of the bombing of Tripoli was to kill M. al-Qadhdhafi, although American laws formally forbid organizing or preparing assassination attempts on foreign leaders.

Now that the U.S. plans to eliminate the leader of the Libyan revolution have been wrecked, Washington is launching a campaign of psychological warfare with the aim of destabilizing the situation in the country.

U.S. Actions 'Gangster-like'

PM181628 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 19 Apr 86 First Edition p 3

[L. Dobrokhotov article: "Blind Force"]

[Text] The gangster-like runs by U.S. bombers against independent Libya are taking place under solid cover provided by, so to speak, "shore-based" propaganda artillery from Washington. It is well known that this artillery is thoroughly involved in accusing the Libyan Government of organizing "global terrorist activity." Therefore, the bomb strikes against residential quarters in Tripoli and Banghazi are described by the White House and its fellow-thinkers in Congress as nothing but "a major action against terrorist targets"(!) Proof? Washington claims Libyan "complicity" in the explosions at a West Berlin discotheque and on board a U.S. aircraft. However, no factual or legally substantiated evidence has been submitted. Our readers know that Tripoli has resolutely dissociated itself from these and all other terrorist actions.

...In the evening of 15 April the BBC broadcast live the House of Commons debate on the British Government's complicity in U.S. aggression against Libya. The explanations by M. Thatcher and members of her cabinet had to be made to the accompaniment of a stormy and indignant outcry by parliamentarians. Graduates from Oxford and Cambridge, and therefore well acquainted with the fundamentals of international jurisprudence, they demanded an answer to the question: "By what right?" Neither they, nor any other British people, were told anything intelligible.

The situation is, unfortunately, different in the United States. Chauvinist hysteria there has hit its peak in the last few days. According to a NEWSWEEK opinion poll, 83 percent of Americans described the preceding bomb raid against Libya as "justified," while 75 percent (with 15 percent against) even called it "ligitimate!" That country's population is taught law in a strange fashion! The administration behaves in the international arena according to the cowboy interpretation of legality: Pick up the Winchester at the slightest provocation, and fire indiscriminately. Never mind who is in the right and who is guilty!

It is obvious that the chauvinist intoxication in the country and a feeling of impunity encourage the Washington team. But any intoxication is sooner or later replaced by sobering up. The United States has had repeated occasions to convince itself of this in the most recent past. And as for impunity.... This feeling is false and dangerous! The time of reckoning will come! As a result of its actions, the United States has not only already set the majority of mankind against itself but has also wrecked the meeting of foreign ministers which was planned as an important stage along the path to the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting. The Soviet Government statement emphasizes that, in the event that the rapacious U.S. actions continue, our country will be forced to draw more far-reaching conclusions.

U.S. foreign policy over the last few weeks has made many observers in the West ask: Did Geneva actually happen? Or, rather, was the President actually there?

The unprecedented actions against Libya, the provocation in the Black Sea, the moving of U.S. troops and arms close to the border with Nicaragua, the explosion in Nevada.... And all this happened against the background of anticommunist hysteria fanned by the administration, a hysteria so strikingly reminiscent of R. Reagan's speech about the "evil empire" in the British Parliament. Having studied Reagan's "life and times," specialists are increasingly inclined to turn to more distant landmarks in his life in their quest for the sources of presidential ideology and practice.

Wringing from congressmen 100 million [dollars] to outfit the Nicaraguan "contras" and intimidating them with the prospect of a "second Cuba" appearing in the U.S. "backyard," Reagan recently proclaimed the task of "halting communism and international terrorism" as a "fundamental historical test" which his presidency has been set. At the same time, Americans were able to see their President on television screens and illustrated magazine pages wearing a T-shirt with the following slogan emblazoned across his chest: "Halt Communism in Central America!"

It may have been this aspect of well-staged propaganda that forced American journalists to turn back to the acting days of the present White House leader who, in his capacity as president of the Screen Actors Guild in Hollywood in the fifties, at the height of McCarthyism, delivered rabble-rousing anticommunist speeches which, compared with today's utterances, make it possible to accuse their author of tautology not only of ideas but also of expression.

The favorite pastime of McCarthy's supporters at that time was to seek out the "Reds under the beds" of Americans. Now the "Reds" are sought in Nicaragua, Libya, and farther afield still.

In the fifties Reagan classed as "communist" anyone who at any time said anything good about the Land of the Soviets, anyone who treated the "Bill of Rights" not as a joke but seriously.

In the eighties he classes as "communist dictatorships" such diverse countires, existing under completely different conditions and at completely different stages of development, as Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Libya, Ethiopia, or Angola. The only thing they have in common is that they are members of the Nonaligned Movement, having taken the path of progressive development and being neither socialist nor -- even less so -- communist, have become victims of American monopolistic totalitarianism.

The words "democracy," "peace," and "freedom" appear today in presidential speeches with the frequency of Coca-Cola advertisements on commercial television. Total dependence on the frequency of combat missions by bombers based on U.S. aircraft carriers in the Gulf of Sidra is observed here.

Yet there are still some people in the United States who ask: Is the President not overstepping the mark?

Following the collapse of all its propaganda tricks and capers, Washington today has openly concentrated its efforts on attempts to take confrontation out of mothballs and whip it up, including, among other methods bombing Libyan cities.

The message by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to M. al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, notes: "Washington has not heeded our call, dictated by the desire to avoid a further exacerbation of the political climate in the world. The United States has again appeared as the main party guilty of escalating international tension, recklessly gambling with the fate of millions of people for the sake of satisfying its imperial ambitions."

It cannot be put more accurately. Washington, blinded by the might of its militarist machine and haughtily scorning international law, is leading the world toward a most dangerous confrontation.

Proof of Terrorism 'Fictional'

LD180358 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Report from "The World Toady" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] Protests against Washington's policy are resounding around the streets and squares of many of the world's cities. Anti-American protests have been held outside the U.S. Embassies in London, the Nicaraguan capital, and Islamabad, and outside the American Cultural Center in Cape Town; demonstartions have been held in many cities in the FRG, Greece, and Spain; telegrams reporting such actions have been coming in all day today.

Having come up against universal international condemnation, the United States is attempting to justify its military action by claiming that it, allegedly, was an act of self-defense. These explanations, however, do not stand up to inspection. Washington's so-called proof of Tripoli's involvement in international terrorism is of a fictional nature. The United States claims that Libya, with its population of 4 million, situated at a distance of thousands of kilometers from U.S. territory, presents a threat to the United States, cannot be taken seriously. The truth of the matter lies elsewhere, in the fact that Libya's independent policy has long infuriated the U.S. Administration. The latter cannot forgive Libya for managing to remove U.S. military bases from its territory, for nationalizing foreign petroleum companies, and for supporting the national liberation struggle of other peoples. Washington has long been planning to teach Libya a thing or two and thereby give a lesson to other young states who do not wish to carry out instructions from across the ocean.

In his memoirs, former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig admits that the issue of anti-Libyan operations was discussed as early as the first sitting of the U.S. National Security Council after Reagan's election as president, held on 21 February 1981. At that time, there was no mention of terrorism, but the United States was already devising plans for overthrowing the Al-Qadhdhafi government. Since then, Washington has undertaken many attempts to achieve this objective. The United States imposed economic and diplomatic sanctions on Libya; it held provocative maneuvers off the Libyan coast; it tried to draw Egypt into joint military action against Libya; it attacked Libyan aircraft and ships; and now finally has bombed Libyan cities.

Washington spokesmen claim that only military targets were attacked, so-called terrorist bases. Pentagon chief Weinberger has even boasted that thanks to laser beams the strikes were carried out with exceptional accuracy.

However, it is now known that the U.S. aircraft bombed residential areas of the Libyan capital. As a result, the Romanian, French, FRG, Greek, and Swiss Embassies were damaged in the attack. The VOA has stated the 10 to 15 persons suffered in the U.S. attacks, but correspondents of foreign news agencies in Tripoli report that the number of those killed alone amounts to 100, while the total number or persons killed or injured is close to 1,000. They include many foreigners, women, and children. Al-Qadhdhafi's 15-month-old adopted daughter was killed and his two young sons were injured. This murder of civilians cannot be justified with any arguments.

The Washington administration has dealt a blow not only to Libya but also to the international community's hopes for an improvement in the international atmosphere. The U.S. actions signify a deliberate exacerbation of Soviet-U.S. relations. Our country has frequently addressed serious warnings to the U.S. Administration concerning the dangerous consequences of continuing its anti-Libyan policy. However, Washington has not heeded our appeals.

'Piratic Strategy' Revealed

LD181634 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 18 TASS -- by TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov:

Many civilians, including children, women and old people, were killed and wounded, more than 100 residential buildings were destroyed -- this is the outcome of the barbaric U.S. Air Force raid on cities and settlements of sovereign Libya.

An act of political vandalism has been committed against that country. Barbaric actions of the United States against the Libyan people can be qualified from the standpoint of international law only as actions of war criminals comparable with the destruction of Guernica by fascists.

One more shameful page has been written in the history of crimes of American imperialism. To get the proper idea about the scale of those crimes one should add many more facts and figures to the sinister data about the death tally and the extent of destruction on Libyan soil.

Can we forget the U.S. aggression in Vietnam, where the U.S. military, out to "Bomb Vietnam back into the stone age", committed colonialist atrocities exacerbated by the destructive power of modern means of annihilation? Hundreds of thousands of people died during the "dirty war" fought by the U.S. in Vietnam.

The aggressor dropped more than 7 million tons of bombs and sprayed 48 million liters of a poisonous chemical, called 'Agent Orange' on Vietnamese soil. To this day scores of thousands of Vietnamese suffer from the consequences of the poisoning.

There still [as received] more fact and figures to be added to the score -- during an undeclared war unleashed and waged by Washington against Afghanistan more than 2,000 schools, over one half of all medical centers, and hundreds of mosques were destroyed and burned down, 14,000 kilometers of telephone lines and about one half of the entire length of power transmission lines were devasted. The damage caused by the subversive activities of counter-revolutionary forces sent into Afghanistan made up about 40 billion Afghanis.

The scale of an undeclared war started by Washington in 1980 against another sovereign country -- Nicaragua -- is growing. As Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega recently said in an interview to the Mexican news services NOTIMEX, in the past five years through the fault of the U.S. at least 11,000 Nicaraguans were killed, another 5,000 wounded, and 250,000 had to leave their native places and move deeper into the country's territory.

These frightening figures show the scope of criminal operations carried out by aggressive imperialist quarters of the United States, by the U.S. secret services, their hirelings and henchmen.

Besides, describing Washington's criminal activities, one cannot fail to mention such facts as a counter-revolutionary putsch in Chile, a piratic attack of the U.S. on independent Grenada, support given by U.S. secret services to terrorist UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] forces operating on Angolan territory.

Over the years of the Republican administration in the White House the number of CIA's "special operations" increased at least five-fold. At the present time "gentlemen from Langley" are running about 50 major operations of that kind in different regions of the world, to say nothing of less important operations. As former CIA agent John Stockwell said, more than three million people had already fallen victim to "covert wars" waged by the CIA in the developing countries.

Such are the results of American hegemonism, the outcome of interventionist actions of the United States, the frightening "tally of the policy of terror" pursued by Washington in different regions of the world.

All who treasure peace, the ideals of freedom and security of nations resolutely condemn this aggressive, piratic political strategy.

Bosses Try to Cover Tracks

LD191910 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Commentary by Political Observer Valentin Zorin from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Hello, comrades! One gains the impression that Washington did not expect such a reaction to the attack upon a small country, did not count on an explosion of indignation throughout the world taking on such a scale, nor on the political consequences of its military adventure being so wide-spread and so unfavorable for the United States. Evidently, the chauvinistic hysteria which has swamped a certain sector of American society has also had an effect upon the Washington leaders themselves, and has deprived them of the possibility of making a sober and realistic appraisal of the situation which has come about. On the banks of the Potomac today, they cannot hide their evident disappointment and extreme irritation in regard to the European allies, who, in spite of the pressure exerted upon them refused -- with the exception of the Thatcher government -- to back up, even verbally, at least, the piratical U.S. action against Libya.

Washington is pretending that it is astonished by the Soviet Government statement to the effect that the administration itself had made impossible at the given state the scheduled meeting between the foreign ministers of our two countries. The action against Libya, they say, has nothing to do with the Soviet-American dialogue. It should not be pretended, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said in Berlin, that the U.S. Administration is unaware that the Soviet-American relations cannot develop independent of the way the United States behaves in the international arena and of the sort of situation which comes about as a result of this. In our interdependent world, one cannot press the buttons of missile launching installations in one place without this reverberating at all ends of the planet.

Libyan children torn to pieces, blood on the streets of Libyan towns -- this is a fact of not just local importance, but an event with a worldwide dimension.

Finding themselves in an extremely difficult political situation, the Washington bosses have set about feverishly covering up their tracks. Official administration spokesmen have put out a wholly mendacious version to the effect that Washington, having discovered in advance about the bomb being prepared by the Libyans in West Berlin, which was then used as the pretext for the villainous attack upon Libya, allegedly asked for the assistance of the Soviet Union in preventing the explosion. But, you see, it met with no response.

In so doing, the Washington officials in their haste failed to notice that in their aspiration to slander our country and shield themselves, they had forgotten about elementary logic. If they knew in advance that a bomb, was being prepared, why did they not prevent it, or at least warn their soldiers not to frequent a dangerous place?

Thus, one lie engenders another, putting its authors into an increasingly silly situation and exposing them before the whole world. The U.S. propaganda machine has been put on full steam ahead over the past few days, engendering one cock and bull story after another, each more absurd than the one before. This very hullaballo itself indacates the confusion at present in official Washington. However, floundering about in lies and demonstrating a total lack of scrupulousness in methods will bring Washington nothing but self-exposure and increasing international isolation.

U.S. Using 'Propaganda Tricks'

LD192326 Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Text] There's been no let-up in the outrage all over the world following the bandit American attack on Libya. The member-nations of the United Nations Security Council have demanded that Washington be brought to account. Even America's allies in NATO, except for Britain, have openly expressed their disapproval. Having come under a tide of criticism, Washington is resorting to slander and defeat in a bid to evade the responsibility for the crime it's committed.

The United States State Department has gone so far as to claim that the Soviet Union is responsible for the raid on Libya because, the State Department claims, it was warned about terrorist acts against Americans and asked to bring pressure to bear on Libya. This is a brazen lie. A spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry has told newsmen that in talking about a possible terrorist act the American side had nothing with which to prove its charges. The Americans refused to furnish any concrete evidence. They claimed they didn't want to expose their sources of information. But that arguement doesn't hold water. If the United States really had evidence why has it failed to take action to protect its citizens? It's more likely that certain forces prepared to stage any provocative action to aggravate the international situation were at work.

After the attack on Libya Washington is again spreading rumors about more terrorist acts against Americans and it's saying quite hypocritically that it's seeking Soviet cooperation in that matter. But who is the Soviet Union supposed to cooperate with? Is it supposed to cooperate with those who gave the attack on Libya the go-ahead at government level? Or is it supposed to cooperate with those who sent warplanes to bomb peaceful Libyan cities and those who are responsible for the death of totally innocent people, children among them? The Soviet Union is resolutely opposed to terrorism, whatever form it may take. To cooperate with the United States, which has committed an act of brigandage, would amount to becoming a moral accomplice in its policy of state sponsored terrorism. The Soviet Union will not do that. The Phillistines in Washington are lying and going for propaganda tricks to cover up the traces of their crimes. But they won't be able to do that.

USSR-JAPAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION TALKS CONCLUDE

LD171116 Moscow TASS in English 1036 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 17 TASS -- Progress in the development of business relations between the Soviet Union and Japan and their prospects were discussed at the tenth joint conference of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for economic cooperation which has closed here today. The Soviet delegation to the talks was led by Vladislav Malkevich, a deputy minister of foreign trade of the USSR, and the Japanese delegation by Ryochi Kawai, chairman of the board of the Komatsu corporation. About 400 businessmen of the two countries took part in the conference.

The final plenary meeting, which took place in Moscow's World Trade Center, heard reports of the chairmen of the subcommittees on specific areas and projects of cooperation that had worked at the conference, among them those on trade, the Sakhalin project, chemicals, ports and transport, south Yakut coal mining, timber resources, technological chip and the pulp-and-paper industry.

The sides approved a joint communique on the results of the work of their tenth joint meeting. It expresses the readiness of the sides to make efforts further to expand trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and Japan and to search more vigorously for new forms of such cooperation, in particular, through co-production ventures, scientific and technological exchanges and other progressive forms of business contacts. It was noted that additional possibilities for the expansion of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic contacts were being opened up by the introduction of Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and to the Year 2000. The organisations of the two countries were recommended to continue talks on cooperation in the chemicals, pulp-and-paper and timber industries and in transport construction and to improve the structure of mutual trade.

The heads of the Soviet and Japanese delegations said in their speeches at the closing meetings of the conference that much importance was attached to the present-day forum of businessmen from the two countries from the point of view of the further expansion of their mutual business contacts.

During their stay in Moscow, the leaders of the Japanese delegation were received by Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for science and technology, and Boris Aristov, minister of foreign trade of the USSR. They also had talks with the leaders of some other Soviet ministries and departments.

Agreement was reached on holding the next joint conference of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for economic cooperation in Japan in 1987 at a time suitable to both sides.

U.S. BOMBING ATTACKS AGAINST LIBYA CONDEMNED

MPR Condemns Attacks

LD161749 Moscow TASS in English 1434 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Ulaanbaatar April 16 TASS -- The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic has issued a statement condemning the U.S. aggressive actions against Libya.

"The totally unprovoked aggressive act", the statement says, "is indicative of the U.S. Administration's defiant disregard for the norms of international law and for the demands of the world public".

The statement expresses Mongolia's support for the Libyan people, and conveys a demand that the U.S. Administration immediately cease the hostile anti-Libyan campaign.

DPRK Condemns 'Brigand' Action

LD162127 Moscow TASS in English 2024 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Pyongyang April 16 TASS -- The Government of the DPRK and the Korean people are firmly on the side of the Libyan people and will continue assisting its just cause in every possible way. This is said in a statement of the DPRK Government in connection with the U.S. bombing of Libya. The statement was circulated by the CENTRAL KOREAN NEWS AGENCY here today.

The attempts to justify that act of aggression by presenting it as "retaliation" mean the logic of a brigand who violates fundamental norms of international law, the document says. But no provocations can help the United States intimidate the Libyan people and other peaceful peoples of the world.

The United States must immediately end the aggression against the Libyan people. If the USA continues the reckless playing with fire, it will bear full responsibility for all its consequences, the statement says.

U.S., ROK END 'TEAM SPIRIT-86' EXERCISES

LD181320 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Tokyo April 18 TASS -- The American and South Korean troops ended their "Team Spirit-86" exercises, which had lasted over two months. More than 209,000 officers and men, almost 40 warships, including the Midway attack aircraft carrier and missile cruisers were involved in those exercises of an unprecedented scale.

The annual "Team Spirit" exercises, which have been conducted since the mid-1970s, are used by the Pentagon to train troops in "rapid deployment" operations on an especially large scale American troops from U.S. bases in Japan, the Hawaii islands, the Philippines, Guam and U.S. territory were brought to South Korea for the exercises.

One new feature of the latest exercises was the participation of the 9th airborne division, which is constantly on the alert to carry out "lightning" punitive actions in different parts of the world.

The "Team Spirit-86" scenario was based on simulating offensive operations and "suprise deep-penetration strikes" with the use of every weapon of mass destruction. The Chon Tu-hwan dictatorial regime gave the U.S. armed forces a free hand to simulate the crossing of water obstacles, tank marches [as received] and combat operations in "areas contaminated with radioactive fallout and chemicals" virtually throughout the territory of South Korea.

DRA'S KESHTMAND ARRIVES IN MOSCOW ON OFFICIAL VISIT

LD202324 Moscow TASS in English 2253 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA), arrives in Moscow today for an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

"Soviet people", emphasizes today's PRAVDA, "cordially welcome the arrival of the chairman of the DRA's Council of Ministers in the USSR and express confidence that his visit will become a new landmark along the lines of strengthening friendship and all-round cooperation between the USSR and the DRA, between the Soviet and Afghan peoples".

The newspaper carries a brief biography and a photograph of the guest.

DRA PROTESTS PAKISTANI VIOLATIONS OF AIRSPACE

LD191201 Moscow TASS in English 0751 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 19 TASS -- Pakistan's charge d'affaires ad interim in Democratic Afghanistan has been summoned to the Afghan Foreign Ministry and told that despite this country's repeated warnings, Pakistani military authorities are continuing to stage acts of interference and aggression against Afghanistan, BAKHTAR news agency reported.

According to a report by competent Afghan agencies, Pakistani Air Force planes on April 14 and 16 intruded into Afghan air space over Spinbaldak District, Kandahar Province,and bombed several villages there, killing four and wounding some 50 persons, including women and children, and causing widespread destruction.

The Afghan Government strongly protested the provocative and inhuman actions, which have further complicated relations between the two countries, and demanded that such actions be stopped. Otherwise, it warned, all responsibility for their consequences will be on the Pakistani side.

AFGHAN PEACE ORGANIZATION CONDEMNS ATTACK ON LIBYA

LD162132 Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 16 TASS -- U.S. imperialism staged a new flagrant act of international banditry, said a statement issued by Afghanistan's Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization.

A bombing raid of U.S. Air Force planes on Tripoli and Banghazi killed and wounded innocent civilians and caused extensive material damage.

This aggression followed a series of provocative actions directed against Libya, the statement said. Using the might of its armed forces, the United States, together with its allies including Israel, had been trying to intimidate the Libyan people and the revolutionary leadership of the country, make Libya give up its anti-imperialist policy. When this plan had failed, Washington resorted to an act of state terrorism.

On behalf of the entire peaceful people of Afghanistan the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization expressed wrath and indignation at the U.S. aggression against an independent Arab country and stated its solidarity with the Libyans' efforts to thwart imperialist conspiracies.

INDIAN CP DENOUNCES U.S. ATTACK ON LIBYA

LD190133 Moscow TASS in English 1551 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi April 17 TASS -- The central Secretariat of the Communist Party of India has issued the following statement to the press:

The Central Secretariat of the Communist Party of India vehemently denounces the barbarous military aggression committee by the Reagan administration against Libya.

This action of U.S. imperialism comes at a time when it is already making active preparations to step up its attacks against Nicaragua, Angola and Afghanistan and when it is goind ahead with its nuclear tests despite the urgent and constructive proposals made by Comrade Gorbachev.

The barbarous aggression committed by the Reagan administration against Libya is a challenge to international law, to the U.N. General Assembly, to the non-aligned community of nations, to world peace. Reagan is following in the footsteps of Hitler, with this vital and dangerous difference that he is playing with nuclear weapons which threatens the very existence of world mankind. It is not Libya, but President Reagan who has unleashed a course of international terrorism and brigandage.

Peace-loving forces throughout the world must raise their voice of condemnation immediately against U.S. aggression on Libya, the U.N. General Assembly, as well as the Non-Aligned Movement should forthwith come out denouncing U.S. imperialism as the aggressor and demanding that it immediately stops its attack against Libya and withdraws its entire forces from the Mediterranean. Every attempt must be made by the world community of nations and peace-loving forces of all the continents to stage before it extends its adventurist plans further into other regions. World peace is at stake at the present time and everything must be done immediately before events develop to a point of no return.

The Communist Party of India calls upon all peace-loving forces in India to step up their campaign against U.S. aggression on Libya and demands that the Non-Aligned Movement comes and with a concerted plans to checkmate the present U.S. aggression and defend the national freedom and sovereignty of Libya.

The Communist Party of India calls upon its units throughout the country to hold protest meetings and demonstrations in front of the institutions of the U.S. Government in the country, demanding an immediate end to U.S. aggression against Libya and expressing solidarity with the Libyan people.

PROTESTORS BESIEGE U.S. EMBASSY IN NEW DELHI

LD181433 Moscow TASS in English 1145 GMG 18 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi April 18 TASS -- The U.S. Embassy in the Indian capital found itself in "siege" as one demonstration of protest against the U.S. barbarous air raid on Libya gave way to the next outside its building. The marchers, denouncing the U.S. state terrorism and the American aggressors, distributed a statement, which expressed indignation at the U.S. aggression against the non-aligned country which suffered numerous civilian casualties as a result.

REPORTAGE ON CPSU GENERAL SECRETARY'S VISIT TO GDR

Discusses Palestinian Unity With 'Arafat

JN201824 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1720 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Baghdad last night from Berlin following an official visit to the GDR. During the visit, 'Arafat led a Palestinian revolution delegation to the 11th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany.

During the visit, 'Arafat also met with Soviet leader Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev. During the meeting, which was held in a cordial and intimate atmosphere, the two sides reviewed recent developments in Arab, Palestinian, and international arenas. The two sides also discussed the seriousness of the continuation of the U.S. policy of force which aims at striking at the struggle of the Arab nation and the Palestinian people. They also reviewed the threats posed by this U.S. policy to world peace and security. 'Arafat and Gorbachev discussed the importance of Arab solidarity and Palestinian unity to confront these challenges.

Comrade Gorbachev stressed the USSR's firm and resolute stand toward the Palestinian people's just cause and struggle for achieving their legitimate rights, including their right to establish an independent state.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar thanked Comrade Gorbachev on behalf of the Palestinian people for the support our people and just cause receive from the USSR and friendly socialist states on all levels. 'Arafat expressed appreciation for the USSR's resolute and firm support for the Arab nation against aggressions toward it, particularly U.S. aggressions.

'Arafat held another lengthy meeting with a representative of Gorbachev at the Palestinian Embassy. They reviewed developments in the Palestinian, Arab, and international situations in light of escalating events in the region.

In the presence of the Palestinian delegation, brother leader Abu 'Ammar met with the head and members of the Cuban delegation in Berlin. During the meeting, the two sides discussed current developments in the region and Palestinian-Cuban relations. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar asked the Cuban delegation to convey a special message to Comrade Fidel Castro. The message deals with recent developments in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar met for the second time in Berlin with the Egyptian National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party delegation led by Brother Khalid Muhyi al-Din and Dr Rif 'at al-Sa'id. Talks dealt with the situation in the Palestinian and Arab arenas. The two sides agreed on joint measures in the interest of a unified Arab stand.

Supports Palestinian Dialogue

GF201014 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Dubayy, 20 Apr (WAKH) -- Official Palestinian sources are speaking of a joint Soviet-Algerian move to achieve Palestinian national reconciliation which would take place through the convening of a national dialogue conference among the Palestinian factions in Algeria, and which would be supported by the USSR and Syria.

The newspaper AL-BAYAN, published in Dubayy today, quotes these sources as saying that the features of this move appeared through the two meetings Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat held with Soviet leader Gorbachev in East Berlin while the two were attending the celebration [as received] of the ruling party in the GDR, and through the contacts that Algeria is making with representatives of the Palestinian resistance factions.

The sources expressed optimism concerning the meetings of 'Arafat and Gorbachev. These have been the first meetings between them since the Soviet leader assumed power.

The sources pointed out that Algerian officials are currently holding a series of meetings with representatives of the Palestinian factions to arrange for the Palestinian national dialogue conference recently called for by the Algerian president and which has been welcomed by most Palestinian factions. However, the sources said that George Habash's PFLP [Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine] stipulates the annulment of the Amman agreement as a condition for holding the conference. However, Algeria wants to bring all Palestinian factions together to discuss everything and to use the Aden-Algiers agreement as the basis for achieving Palestinian national unity.

Visits Treptow Memorial

LD182201 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Berlin's Treptow Park. Above the trees, which owing to this year's late spring have not yet come into leaf, rises the lyrical monument: A Soviet soldier, in his bullet-riddled protective cape, holding a sword that has cleft the hated swastika, with a child whom he has rescued in his arms. This is the way he came to Berlin, via the hard roads of war in the unforgettable spring of 1945. And in this guise, as the warrior-liberator, he has remained forever in the memory of humanity. [video shows Treptow cemetery]

Today the delegates and foreign guests of the 11th SED Congress went to Treptow Park to pay their tribute of memory and deepest respect to the immortal exploits of the Soviet Army.

With the leaders of the SED went the delegations of fraternal parties and democratic and national liberation movements of over 100 states. The CPSU delegation was led by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. Wreaths and bouquets of flowers were laid at the foot of the monument.

[Video shows close-ups of monument, with Soviet sentries guarding it; large group of people approaches from far end of park, led by two parties of soldiers, of the Soviet and GDR Armies, carrying wreaths; soldier mount steps to lay wreaths, while large group of dignitaries stand to attention below for Soviet and GDR national anthems, during which the uniformed military men among them, Soviet and GDR stand at salute. Camera focuses on Gorbachev and Honecker; also visible are Vayno, Medvedev, and Mengistu; others unidentified]

The national anthems of the USSR and the GDR were played. Nobody and nothing has been forgotten. The memory of the heroes is sacred.

Attends German Youth Rally

LD182337 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Aleksandr Zholkver report from Berlin; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] At this moment a rally of the League of Free German Youth [FDJ] is taking place in the central square of the GDR capital bearing the name of Marx and Engels, in honor of the 11th SED congress.

Those taking part in the demonstration warmly greet Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, and the head of the CPSU, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

Visits Friedrichsfelde Memorial

LD191539 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Presented by commentator Vladimir Pasko]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee delegation headed by party General Secretary Comrade Gorbachev, which is in Berlin now, today visited the memorial cemetery of fighters of the German revolutionary movement in Friedriechsfelde. The delegation laid a wreath at a memorial there. Along with GDR leaders, the CPSU delegation honored the memory of prominent figures of the German and international communist movement with a minute of silence.

Comments on Prospects for U.S. Summit

LD202103 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Report on CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to GDR National Economic Institute in Potsdam on 20 April; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] At the 11th SED Congress today discussion of the draft directive of the plan for the development of the GDR economy for the period 1986-90 came to an end. The delegates unanimously confirmed this important document which outlines the prospects for the construction of a developed socialist society in the republic.

Today the CPSU delegation led by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev visited the Central Institute for the Socialist Management of the National Economy attached to the SED Central Committee.

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] Good day. Thank you for the warm welcome. Well, you know that we are here at the invitation of the Central Committee of your party. Insofar as the plans of the party, the ruling party, are the most immediate matter for the whole people, it touches on the interests of all of the people. I would like to congratulate you on the good results that were under discussion at the congress; you have worked well. And [I also want to] congratulate you on your good prospects. You know, when a man has a completely clear view of the future, how the country, the enterprise and the family will live -- this is a great thing.

All of us are so spoiled by socialism that we often forget about this, we have become so accustomed to it; but it is a great thing, both the achievements of today and the very good prospects. And so I wish you happiness, fine accomplishments -- well, you will have to work a bit, as I understand it. I am now standing before you, and I want to repeat what I said to the congress: The CPSU and the Soviet people are in favor of continuing to strengthen our friendship, so that this may result in new successes and happiness for the people of the GDR, for the Soviet people, and I think that this has enormous significance, both for Europe and for the situation in the world. [applause] [end recording]

The delegation became acquainted with various departments and laboratories of the institute and with its computer center. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev showed a detailed interest in the organization of the educational process and in scientific research. Having wished the collective of the institute new creative successes, he signed the book for honored guests.

The CPSU delegation also visited today the Cecilienhof Castle in Potsdam, where the conference between the leaders of the three powers of the anti-Hitler coalition took place following the rout of fascism. Today there is a museum in the castle, visited by about 500,000 visitors annually from all over the world.

The heads of government of the USSR, the United States, and Great Britain met in July 1945 in this former palace of the Polish Princess Cecilie. The conference sessions were held in the main hall. They ended with the signing of the Potsdam Agreement on the demilitarization, de-Nazification, and democratization of Germany.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev made an entry in the museum's book to honored guests.

Moscow TASS in English at 1945 on 20 April adds the following:

Mikhail Gorbachev made the following entry in the honorary visitors' book of the museum:

"We have been deeply impressed by the acquaintance with the Cecilienhof -- the site of the Potsdam conference which became the symbol of the defeat of fascism and of the establishment of a just peace in Europe. The conference also provided an example of the possibility of cooperation between states belonging to different social systems."

"The assertions that 'the Potsdam and Yalta had split Europe' are in full contradiction with the truth. They created conditions for a peaceful, free and democratic development of all countries in Europe. Europe was split by the West's striving for military superiority and by attempts to revive West German militarism. The Soviet Union, just like the entire socialist community, will not slacken its efforts to overcome the split and to consolidate detente on the basis of further development of the all-European process."]

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] I think that everyone who comes here is compelled to go back to history, especially in this spot, where the bloodiest war in the history of mankind ended. One cannot but reflect here upon mankind, upon the destiny of the world.

You have reminded us of the good words that were spoken at that time, and recalled the words with which the leaders of the powers of the anti-Hitler coalition took their leave of one another. These one could repeat here now. On the one hand, [there have been] 40 years of peace in Europe, although conflicts have taken place in the world and are still taking place. This is in itself a great victory for peace-loving forces, and, I think, is the great contribution of the socialist countries, as well as of all other peace-loving forces.

On the other hand, we know that the time which we live is a very dangerous and alarming one; some people are once agains thinking up plans and again entertaining illusions of attaining military supremacy and being in command of the world. And if one takes into account the fact that all this is taking place in the nuclear age, then what can such a policy lead to?

For all those who hold peace dear and who remember the sacrifices with which it was won, the main thing now is to do everything to ensure that the sacrifices made in World War II, the results of which were signed here -- summed up here -- were not in vain. There is food for thought here.

In this very place, at this very moment, I would like to say that one of the great results of post-war construction, in terms of the results of the war, is the modern GDR, the socialist GDR, our great friend and a mighty factor of peace in the center of Europe. However, one must think of the future.

I think that your congress is dedicated to this.

One of the delegates said yesterday -- and I even made a note of it on my notepad -- peace will be stronger if socialism is stronger. But socialism itself needs peace, in order to reveal its potential. Good words, those. True words.

This is, perhaps, the theme resounding at the congress. This theme resounded at the 27th party congress, and at the other congresses of our fraternal parties.

I think that this, and our plans for the future, are the best indication of what our peoples are thinking, for what they are striving. We will not just think, but also do everything possible to preserve peace. [applause] [end recording]

[Correspondent] After looking around the Cecilienhof Museum, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, replying to Western journalists' questions about the prospects for another Soviet-U.S. summit meeting, said:

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] For a meeting to be held, an appropriate atmosphere in international relations is needed, as well as a real hope that at that meeting we can take a new step. If the American Administration realizes that this is the road that needs to be followed, we are prepared for that. If it continues what it is doing today, with its attempts to explode the international situation and exacerbate it, to disperse the spirit of Geneva, then it seems to me that this could deprive of value all plans for a future meeting. Let them think about this in Washington. We will not hold things up. We are ready for serious steps. And I think you are familiar with our new proposals that I put forward at the SED Congress. We are ready to take real steps toward peace. [end recording]

Meets Honecker

LD210605 Moscow TASS in English 0555 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Berlin April 21 TASS -- Makhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, chairman of the GDR Council of State, met in Berlin on April 20.

They discussed questions pertaining to a further deepening of cooperation between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the USSR and the GDR. Views were exchanged on topical international issues.

The meeting proceeded in a cordial atmosphere.

TASS REPORTS HONECKER ADDRESS TO 11TH SED CONGRESS

LD180341 Moscow TASS in English 1416 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Berlin April 17 TASS -- The goal of the peaceful foreign policy of the German Democratic Republic is to ensure felicitous external conditions for the continuing effort to build a developed socialist society in the G.D.R. This was stated in a report of the SUPG (Socialist Unity Party of Germany) Central Committee delivered to the 11th SUPG Congress by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SUPG Central Committee, today.

For the years to come the SUPG and the G.D.R. set forth as the top-priority foreign policy tasks consistent work for arms limitation and disarmament, for averting a nuclear war and preventing the militarization of outer space, for developing the fraternal alliance with the U.S.S.R. and other socialist countries, and for promoting an allround strengthening and growth of the might and international prestige of socialism.

"We," Erich Honecker said, "stand for:

-- The complete termination of nuclear tests considering it to be the first step toward ridding the world of nuclear weapons;

-- A halt to the deployment and a gradual dismantling of the nuclear weapon systems already sited in Europe;

-- The limination of all medium-range missiles set up in Europe;

-- The establishment of zones free from nuclear and chemical weapons;

-- The establishment in central Europe of a zone free from battlefield nuclear weapons;

-- A radical improvement of the international situation and effective guarantees of security of nations."

The speaker noted that the wide-scale Soviet initiatives designed to rid mankind by the year 2000 of all types of nuclear weapons and establish a system of international security opened up a new phase in international development.

"We whole-heartedly approve the proposals put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev and endorsed by the 27th Congress of the CPSU, and are taking part in their realization," Erich Honecker said. "They are fully in line with our ideal of a world without weapons and violence, a world in which every nation is free to decide the question concerning ways of development it will take."

The speaker further said that the G.D.R. would continue to develop cooperation with all CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) countries within the framework of socialist economic integration.

Relying on it, Erich Honecker emphasized, the G.D.R. favors further expansion of economic ties with all other countries interested in equitable and mutually beneficial economic cooperation.

"In doing so," the speaker said, "we regard economic ties as an important element of peaceful coexistence."

Touching on the U.S. attack on Libya, Erich Honecker stated: "Barbaric U.S. Air Force bombing strikes at peaceful Libyan cities with innocent people killed and injured in consequence are an act of aggression which causes well-justified indignation and exasperation."

The raids of U.S. warplanes on targets in Libya demonstrate that international peace is becoming less and less stable as a result of imperialism's adventuresome power politics, the speaker said.

From the rostrum of the congress Erich Honecker stated solidarity of the G.D.R. with the anti-imperialist struggle of the Libyan people.

The report noted that after the 10th SUPG congress the German Democratic Republic continued developing successfully as a politically stable socialist country with a highly efficient economy. The plan for 1981-1985 was successfully fulfilled. The fact that the national income in the six months of the previous year equalled the national income for the entire year 1970 attests to the achievements of the country. All the aspects of society's life were further upgraded.

The report formulated the economic strategy of the socialist unity party of Germany for the period ending in 2000. This strategy underlies the guidelines for the 1986-1990 five-year plan.

FURTHER REACTION TO UK SUPPORT FOR LIBYA RAID

Support 'Vicious in Principle'

LD180528 Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] London April 17 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Yevstigneyev reports:

Opening an emergency debate in British Parliament, held in answer to the demand of the opposition, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was doing her utmost in an attempt at justifying the U.S. attack against Libya and the role played in it by the British Government.

Labour Opposition Leader Neil Kinnock stressed that the U.S. bombing of Libya was crude contravention of the norms of international law. By allowing the United States to use British territory for a strike against Libya, the government disregarded the consequences of this extremely dangerous step as well as international public opinion, the opinion of Britain's allies in Europe and of the Arab countries, he stressed.

Eric Heffer, a Labour Party MP, described the U.S. aggression against Libya as an act of institutionalized terrorism. The adventurist policy of the United States is a source of enormous threat, including to the European nations, he said.

David Steel, the Liberal Party leader, drew attention to the fact that the U.S. military "operation" had been a blow to international relations. As a result, he said, it has become impossible, for example, to hold at present a scheduled meeting between the Soviet foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state.

It was vicious in principle that Britain violated international law by supporting the United States and its aggression, which has resulted in losses of life among peaceful Libyan population, stressed David Owen, the Social Democratic Party leader. According to James Callaghan, a former Labour prime minister, and Edward Heath, a former Tory prime minister, Britain should not have allowed U.S. aircraft to take off from her territory for a raid on Libya.

EEC Ministers React

LD180903 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 17 Apr 86

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vladimir Pasko]

[Excerpt] The situation in the Mediterranean has become a subject of discussion at the emergency meeting of foreign ministers of Common Market countries, which opened today in Paris. As AFP reports, many of the Community members condemn the stance of London, which allowed its territory to be used for mounting the strike against Libya. A union with the Republican donkey [as heard] -- this, if you recall, is the emblem of the party at present in power in the United States -- clearly detracts from the prestige of the British lion in Europe. Tindemans, the Belgian external relations minister, accused Britain of double-dealing, pointing out that its actions went against the position agreed upon by EEC foreign ministers on the eve of the U.S. raid on Libya. The sincerity of the indignation being expressed at the moment in West Europe raises no doubts. It is impossible not to agree with the French LE MATIN, which notes that Western European countries that are U.S. NATO allies, were just not able to clearly define their position in time -- practically deciding not to interfere in the Mediterranean conflict -- but, in the end, were drawn into it.

The Soviet Union has long been calling on West Europeans to look critically on the way things stand. This call once again was clearly made during the meeting a few days ago between Comrade Gorbachev and Carlsson, the prime minister of Sweden. Passivity or, what is more, connivance or complicity in such actions as the U.S. armed aggression against Libya, threatens international relations with disorder. This would have unforseeable consequences. The position of the Soviet Union toward the events in the Mediterranean has received praise from Libya. We are eternally grateful to Grobachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, for his message to Al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, which expresses the full support of the Soviet Union in the fight of the Liyban people against the barbaric aggression of the United States, Mansur, secretary of the People's Bureau of Foreign Liaison of the Supreme People's Committee of Libya told a TASS correspondent in Delhi. He is head of the Libyan delegation at the meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the nonaligned countries.

KARPOV CONDUCTS DISARMAMENT TALKS IN BRITAIN

LD191303 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1013 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] London, 19 Apr (TASS) -- Soviet-British political consultations on questions of the limitation of nuclear and conventional weapons and disarmament took place on Friday at the Foreign Office of Great Britain. On the Soviet side, they were conducted by Viktor Karpov, special assignment emissary of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs and leader of the Soviet delegation at the talks on nuclear and space weapons; and on the British side by Timothy Renton, Great Britain's minister of state for foreign affairs, and T. Daunt, assistant under secretary of state at the Foreign Office.

PRESIDIUM APPOINTS KVITSINSKIY ENVOY TO FRG

PM171812 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 86 First Edition p 6

["Diary" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Yuliy Aleksandrovich Kvitsinskiy USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the FRG.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has relieved Vladimir Semenovich Semenov of the post of USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the FRG in connection with his retirement.

REPORTAGE ON FRG GREENS PARTY DELEGATION

Delegation Arrives

PM161147 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Arrival of Delegation"]

[Text] A delegation of the Greens Party (FRG) comprising L. Beckmann, J. Ditfurth, and R. Trampert, its three cochairmen, and N. Kostede, a member of the party's board, arrived in Moscow 13 April at the CPSU Central Committee's invitation. The delegation was met at the airport by I.T. Frolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief editor of the journal KOMMUNIST, V.S. Shaposhnikov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Section, and senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

Yeltsin Receives Greens

LD190027 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Report from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Yeltsin today received a delegation of the Greens Party (FRG). During the conversation, the guests were given detailed information about the work of the Moscow Gorkom and all the working people of the capital in putting into practice the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress in the social, economic, and spiritual spheres. The talk passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Zimyanin, Zagladin Meet Delegation

PM210852 PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 86 First Edition p 4

[Text] A concluding conversation with the delegation of the leadership of the Greens Party (FRG) was held in the CPSU Central Committee on 18 April. The delegation is now visiting the Soviet Union. Taking part in the conversation were Mikhail Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Vadim Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee; from the West German side -- Lukas Beckmann, Jutta Dittfurt, Reiner Trampert, co-chairman of the Greens Party, and Norbert Kostede, member of the party's board.

The attention of the guests was drawn to the fundamental matters of the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and to the party's activities in implementation of the decisions adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress. It was emphasized that in the face of the world's ordeals, through the fault of imperialist forces, the main task is to avert the threat of war, to ensure a peaceful future, and to guarantee mankind's survival. The CPSU's general line in the international arena and the entire foreign policy of the Soviet Union is oriented to precisely this task.

Having condemned the irresponsible actions of the militarist circles of the United States and other NATO countries, which take one action after another with the aim of destabilizing the situation and poisoning the atmosphere in the world and frustrating the peoples' hopes for relaxation of tension, the hopes which appeared as a result of the summit meeting in Geneva, the representatives of the CPSU pointed out that the program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, advanced by the USSR, and other Soviet proposals in the field of disarmament are free of one-sided calculations, national or bloc ones. Their implementation does not infringe on any country but meets the interests of all countries and all mankind. Only political will by the West is needed for an end to the arms race to become a reality in our time, the CPSU representatives emphasized. This is precisely what is lacking either in Washington, Bonn, or in some other capitals of NATO countries.

The leaders of the Greens Party stated that they share the concern of the Soviet leadership over the tense situation that had taken shape in the world. They strongly condemned the U.S. "star wars" plans and Washington's disregard for the calls of the USSR and the world public for an end to nuclear explosions. Setting out the views of their party, the delegation members declared their support for the adoption of urgent measures against the arms race and for the establishment of constructive cooperation between countries in various fields -- political, economic, cultural, humanitarian, and in the sphere of environmental protection.

The sides resolutely denounced the U.S. piratic actions against the sovereign state of Libya, Washington's reliance on force in settling any matters in relations between countries, methods of terrorism, including those of state terrorism, which are used against states and governments that are considered unsuitable, and the most flagrant violation of international law.

The representatives of the CPSU and the delegation of the Greens Party were unanimous that in the present acute international situation the peace-loving peoples, public forces, parties, mass organizations, and parliaments must raise their voices in full vigor in a demand to restrain the militarist forces, to issue a rebuff to great power chauvinism, hegemonism and "neoglobalism," and to bring the world back to the road of detente and cooperation. Any blindness caused by bellicosity may have fatal consequences for the world.

The delegation of the Greens Party expressed satisfaction with their visit to the USSR and with the meetings they had with Soviet representatives in Moscow and Leningrad.

The sides agreed that contacts between the CPSU and the Greens Party should be continued in the future as well.

The conversation took place in a spirit of frankness and mutual understanding.

Officials See Off Greens

LD200352 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] The delegation of the FRG Greens Party leadership left Moscow for home today. They visited the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

At the airport, the delegation was seen off by Comrade Frolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, chief editor of the magazine KOMMUNIST, Comrade Shaposhnikov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and executives of the CPSU Central Committee.

INDIGNATION EXPRESSED AT U.S. RAID ON LIBYA; REPORTS

Jallud Speaks to Press

LD191147 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 19 TASS -- U.S. aggression against the Libyan people has been a moral, political and military failure, 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, a member of Libya's revolutionary leadership, told a news conference here. He said that the United States has not been able to force the Libyan people to abandon their positions of principle and that Libya will continue to give support for nations fighting for their national emancipation and seek Arab unity and a just solution to the Palestinian problem.

Jallud refuted the U.S. Administration's false charges of Libyan involvement in acts of terrorism in Western Europe and the Middle East. He said the U.S. attack on the Libyan Jamahiriyah has made it clear to the whole world that it is the United States that follows a policy of state terrorism. President Reagan, he said, has personally ordered the raids on Tripoli, Banghazi and other Libyan cities, which have left 37 people killed and another 93 wounded.

Jallud accused the British Government of complicity in the crime.

He expressed the Libyan people's unshakeable confidence in their ultimate victory in the fight for freedom and independence and against U.S. aggression.

Al-Humaydi Addresses Funeral

LD191153 Moscow TASS in English 0955 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 19 TASS -- By TASS special correspondents Vladimir Bogachev and Georgiy Shelenkov: Libyans Friday paid their last respects to compatriots killed in U.S. barbarous air raids. Thousands of people marched through Tripoli streets, chanting: "Reagan is a child killer" and "Disgrace on America."

Speaking at a funeral meeting at the El Gani memorial cemetery, Maj Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, a member of Libya's revolutionary leadership, said: "Washington has sent its aircraft-carriers to our shores and hurled armadas of planes against the peaceful residential areas of our cities. But the U.S. Administration's attempts to force the Libyan people to their knees are doomed to failure."

The thousands of mourners pledged at the graves of the victims of U.S. aggression to carry on the fight for their homeland's freedom and independence.

People's Committee Protests Raid

LD201123 Moscow TASS in English 1057 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 20 TASS -- The People's Committee for Communications and Sea-Going Transport of Libya has firmly protested against the continuing piratic actions of the carrier-based aircraft of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the area of the Mediterranean, which pose a grave threat to civilian flights in that area and the safety of passengers. A note, addressed to the international civil aviation organization, stressed that the banditry of American carrion crows, specifically their mission and bomb raids on the Tripoli and Banghazi airports are a very gross violation of international agreements and conventions.

The document cites facts of American war planes' using civilian airliners as a cover up for entry into Libyan airspace. Such a violation took place on April 17 when an air pirate from an aircraft carrier of the Sixth Fleet was discovered when it tried to approach Libyan airspace under the cover of a Yugoslav air company plane which was on its way to Tripoli.

Nonaligned Delegation Arrives

LD210554 Moscow TASS in English 0539 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 21 TASS -- A special delegation of the Non-Aligned Movement that includes foreign ministers of India, Yugoslavia, Cuba, Senegal, Ghana, and the Congo has arrived in the capital of Libya.

Bali Ram Bhagat, head of the delegation, minister of foreign affairs of India, said that they had arrived to express solidarity with and support for the Government and people of Libya on the part of non-aligned countries in the face of the unprovoked and flagrant violation by the United States of the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Libya.

He also said that the delegation sent by participants in the session of the Coordination Bureau of the non-aligned countries on the level of foreign ministers that had come to a close in New Delhi was planning to meet the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and then go to New York. There it will urge the U.N. Secretary General to immediately put an end to armed provocations against Libya.

Soviet Ship Departs for Libya

LD181358 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] The Soviet MV Akademik Artsimovich has departed for Libya transporting cement, motor vehicles, and machine tools. Berdyansk dockers prepared it for sailing ahead of schedule. Waiting to be dispatched are tens of thousands more metric tons of peaceful cargo, which our country is supplying for the friendly state according to a bilateral cooperation treaty. The dockers angrily condemned the U.S. aircraft's piratical raid on Libya at a meeting.

Parliamentary Group Comments

LD181422 Moscow TASS in English 1031 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 18 TASS -- The USSR Parliamentary Group, its Soviet-Arab section issued a statement expressing profound indignation at the new brutal crime of the U.S. militarists -- the bandit air raid on Libya, a sovereign Arab state, and the cruel bombing of its peaceful cities.

By attacking the Libyan Jamahiriyah, the USA has again appeared as the main culprit of the escalation of international tensions, irresponsibly playing with the destinies of millions of people for the sake of satisfying its imperial ambitions, said the statement.

The USSR Parliamentary Group resolutely condemns the American aggression against Libya and demands an immediate end to it. Expressing its full solidarity with the friendly Arab country fighting for its independence, the USSR Parliamentary Group urges all MPs, all people of goodwill to raise the voice of protest against the aggression of the United States which is trying to force by means of arms its will on the people of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, the statement says.

Soviet People Express Support

LD181648 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Today representatives of Soviet public organizations visited the People's Bureau of the Libyan Jamahiriyah in Moscow and had a meeting with Maghrawi, Libya's charge d'affaires in the USSR. Envoys from the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, the Peace Committee, the Soviet Women's Committee, the Youth Committees, and the AUCCTU on behalf of millions of Soviet people expressed their solidarity with the Libyan people and angrily condemned the U.S. bandit action against a sovereign Mediterranean state. Statements of support for the Libyan Jamahiriyah from the Soviet mass public organizations and copies of telegrams, which have been recieved from thousands of solidarity meetings, were handed over to the People's Bureau. Maghrawi thanked them for the support that has been shown and stated that Libya values highly the demonstrations by Soviet people in defense of Libya.

'Many' Civilians Hit by Bombers

LD181426 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The White House is up against the wall for the atrocities committed by the U.S. Air Force in Tripoli, Banghazi, and other towns. Many civilians, including children, women and old people were killed and badly wounded by bombs and air-to-ground missiles from some 30 combat planes.

The American military came up with a laughable story that the damage to residential areas was done by Libyan SAM's. Supposedly they were launched vertically and then, after missing targets, fell back to the ground, their warheads exploding on the roofs and strees. For American officials to be caught lying is nothing unusual. Surface-to-air missiles carry fragmentation warheads to knock down fragile aircraft. What is more, in case of a miss, they auto-detonate and never fall straight down. So, to suggest that the Libyans inflicted casualties on themselves while gallant American flyers bombed and strafed targets only when they were 100 percent sure they were military is, pardon the expression, pure baloney.

There is more reason to suggest that confronted with heavy antiaircraft fire that they never expected those cowboys riding high-tech planes were not as cool as they are now described. It has been admitted that the crew of the downed F-111 dropped their ordnance on civilian areas right after they were hit. So did other pilots to disengage themselves as quickly as possible and each of the 18 F-111's carried over 11 metric tons of bombs and missiles.

Al-Qadhdhafi Death Sought

LD181532 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Excerpt] More details have been emerging of American aggression against Libya. In Tripoli, Banghazi, (?Al Alous), and Tarhuna bulldozers continued to clear the ruins. In the overcrowded city [not further identified] hospitals, doctors are fighting for the lives of the wounded, maimed, and burned. Some of the victims have the chance of pulling through. Others are joining the long list of the dead. These are the results of the American air raids on Libya, which Washington now presents as its victory. According to the French news agency, last Tuesday alone more than 100 tons of bombs and some 50 rockets were released on Tripoli and Banghazi. The victims of the night bombings were innocent civilians including women and children. Foreign journalists who visited the affected residential areas of Tripoli personally saw the bodies of the dead and the smoking ruins of buildings.

The aggressor used fragmentation and pellet bombs meant for mass destruction of humans. The casualties are not limited to Libyans: They include four members of the Romanian Embassy, a wife [as heard] of the Italian consul, and a West German. Damage has been inflicted on the buildings of the French and Romanian missions and on the residences of the ambassadors of Switzerland, Finland, and Austria.

As THE WASHINGTON POST has reported, the objective of the attack was to kill Al-Qadhdhafi. What's more, the National Security Council had even prepared a draft statement in advance in which the death of the Libyan leader was described as accidental. This has now been revealed by members of the U.S. Administration. The operation, codenamed Canyon El Dorado, was [words indistinct] on orders personally signed by President Reagan. When generals asked him if they could start the attack on Monday night, Reagan is reported to have said: Fine, Monday will be okay. That imperial okay has caused not only the spilling of innocent blood, it has caused a worldwide storm of indignation which like a boomerang has hit at the United States. Washington's actions have been condemned by the governments and parliaments of dozens of countries. Millions of people all over the world have staged demonstrations to protest against American terrorism.

Tripoli Remains Alert

LD182349 Moscow TASS in English 2259 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 18 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Georgiy Shelenkov: The past twenty-four hours were relatively calm. Relatively, because the blasts of anti-aircraft shells were heard for several minutes over the city at 9 p.m. as spy planes were probably spotted again in the sky.

The evening television news programme showed the leader of the Libyan revolution, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, visiting Tripoli's Central Hospital. The hospital provided treatment for people multilated by American shells and bombs. Among them were old men, women and children. Al-Qadhdhafi came up to every one of them, and those who were able to speak, assured him, "We are not broken. They haven't scared us." The visit to the hospital turned into a demonstration "America, hands off Libya," chanted the wounded, their physicians and nurses.

Television yesterday showed fragments of American bombs. None of these exhibits, said the newscaster, hit a military facility. They were all retrieved in the ruins of apartment houses. The death-dealing shells, he said, were intended for Libyan civilians, for foreign friends who were living and working in Tripoli. The marking, visible on the bomb stabilizers, was yet another piece of evidence of who carried out the sinister mission.

In the morning I revisited the district of Ben Ashur that was hit hardest in the American air raid. The cosy garden, a haven for local kids, was hardly recognizable. The swings were destroyed, trees uprooted, the ground ploughed by bombs and missiles.

"We were all asleep," said a resident from a nearby house, Said Lutfi, "When that started. It was a hell. I heard a terrible noise in the children's room. A metal bar of the outdoor swing flew into the room through wooden shutters. It was mere luck that no one was hurt. But the nearby house collapsed, killing all its inhabitants, a whole family."

The dead were buried today in the city's central cemetery. Thousands of Tripoli residents came to bid their last farewell. Life in the city remains tense. The Libyan air-defence forces remain on high alert. Their radars still register planes taking off from the aircraft-carriers Coral Sea and America and heading toward the Liyban coast. The threat of new piratic raids remains.

Bomb Explodes Near Airport

LD200908 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 20 TASS -- An aerial bomb, dropped during the recent barbaric raid by the U.S. aviation on peaceful Libyan cities, exploded in a residential neighbourhood in the area of Tripoli international airport last night. An official Libyan spokesman told a press conference that the bomb blast injured three people, among them two children. Seventeen dud U.S. fragmentation bombs are reported to have been detected in the area of the airport.

Number of Victims Grows

LD202322 Moscow TASS in English 1808 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 20 TASS -- TASS correspondents Vladimir Bogachev and Georgiy Shelenkov report: Incessant rain, unusual for this time of the year, set in the Libyan capital last night. In the blocks that suffered from the U.S. barbarous bombardment, rain-water was washing brick dust and plaster off the streets near the ruins of houses and draining off in turbid torrents into bomb and rocket craters.

At that time a large group of foreign jouranlists was returning in several buses from Bin Qashir area where they visited the small hamlet of (Shawat) which is located amid orange plantations five kilometers north-east of the international airport, as well as a nearby farm. It was on those nooks -- the very embodiment of peaceful life and peasant labor -- that U.S. bombs and rockets had been dropped on the night of April 14 to 15. Bomb and missile fragments with inscriptions in English were collected in piles near fresh craters, and some of them put on a specially brought long table for everyone to see. An unexploded rocket was lying at the back of an orange orchard. "That night", Fellah Bahsawi al-Marghani told Soviet journalists, "all residents of our village popped out of their houses upon hearing the thunder of explosions. Luckily, everyone survived. However, five people were injured and several buildings and household structures destroyed". Three-year old son Saleh of Milud Muhammad Hasan was wounded during the bombing. "What do you now think about Reagan?" a Western woman journalist asked him. The reply given by the Libyan fellah as well as the wrathful words uttered by other peasants who survived the terrible night left no doubt that the barbarous act committed by the U.S. military on a personal order from the occupant of the White House would never fade from the memory of the Libyan people.

Life has practically come back to normal in the streets of the capital. Trading is brisk in the meat and vegetable stalls. In the central thoroughfare bearing the name of national hero of Libya Omar Mukhtar, several people drink tea or coffee at the tables set directly on the street. A fresh pasted poster-announcement, near which passers-by gathered, attracted our attention on the wall of a low-built house in Fashlum Street where a small bakery is located. Those are instructions in the event of an air raid. There is also a warning to people not to pick up any attractive-looking objects -- purses, ball-pens or children's toys -- on the streets. The announcement has it that they may explode at touch. Such "souvenirs" had been dropped for the people of the Libyan capital by pilots of U.S. aircraft. This warning is not fortuitous. Last night in Ben Ashur district, where on April 15 U.S. bombs and rockets fell, two boys found some red ball-like object which they decided to show to a passer-by. The "object" exploded. One of the boys was heavily wounded and the passer-by had his left hand torn off. In Tripoli's Central Hospital, where there are now thirty people -- victims of the U.S. bombing, three persons died of wounds in the past days. Four people, among them an eleven-year old boy, are in a critical condition. U.S. aircraft do not appear in the skies over Tripoli. However, the number of victims of the recent bandit raids on the Libyan capital continues to grow.

IRAQI LEADER RAMADAN CONCLUDES VISIT TO MOSCOW

Meeting With Ryzhkov

LD191142 Moscow TASS in English 1101 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, today received in the Kremlin Taha Yasin Ramadan, a member of the Revolutionary Command Council and first deputy prime minister of the Republic of Iraq who is staying in Moscow on an official visit.

During their conversation, which covered questions of developing relations between the USSR and Iraq in various fields, they outlined ways of further upgrading and strengthening mutually beneficial economic, scientific and technological cooperation.

During an exchange of opinions on international politics, Nikolay Ryzhkov stressed that efforts to remove the nuclear threat and change the international situation radically for the better are pivotal to the Soviet Union's foreign-policy strategy charted by the 27th Congress of the CPSU.

Taha Yasin Ramadan declared the Iraqi Government support for Soviet initiatives and efforts to completely eliminate nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and prevent another world war.

Both sides condemned U.S. aggressive actions against Libya, a sovereign Arab nation. The urgent need was stressed for an immediate end to the U.S. aggression which is creating a grave threat to peace and international security.

Arkhipov Concludes Talks

LD191631 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS -- Talks have closed today between Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolutionary Command Council, first deputy prime minister of the Iraqi Republic.

Ivan Arkhipov and Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed satisfaction with the development of friendly relations existing between the Soviet Union and Iraq and reaffirmed the mutual wish to strengthen them in accordance with the treaty of friendship and cooperation. Special attention was devoted to questions pertaining to a further development of trade-economic and scientific-technological cooperation on a mutually beneficial basis.

Today Yaha Yasin Ramadan has left the Soviet Union.

TOLKUNOV-LED DELEGATION TOURS TUNISIA

LD200413 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0650 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Tunis, 19 Apr (TASS) -- A Soviet parliamentary delegation headed by L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Council of the Union is touring Tunisia. It has visited the towns of Sousse and Monastir, major centers of the country's light industry and crafts, also well-known for historical monuments from the Phoenician, Roman, Byzantine, and Arabic cultures.

The Soviet parliamentarians met the governors of the two provinces, and discussed the prospects for the development of Soviet-Tunisian cooperation, specifically between the public of two twin towns, Dushanbe and Monastir.

AL-JUMAYYIL DISCUSSES UNIFIL WITH SOVIET ENVOY

LD182111 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Beirut April 18 TASS -- President Amin al-Jumayyil of Lebanon has expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union for its support for the efforts aimed at solving the problem of the occupied south of the country, and for the USSR's stand with regard to an extension of the mandate of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Amin al-Jumayyil stated this on Thursday when receiving Aleksandr Soldatov, the ambassador of the USSR to Lebanon, who paid a parting visit to the president.

Earlier a high appraisal of the Soviet Union's stand in matters concerning an extension of the mandate and the funding of the UNIFIL had been given by Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Nabih Birri, minister for South Lebanese Affairs, Reconstruction, Water and Electrical Resources, and Justice.

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL WELCOMES UAE EMBASSY

GF190612 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 18 Apr 86 p 3

["Exclusive" report from Moscow]

[Text] A senior official at the USSR Foreign Ministry has stated that there are no technical reasons preventing the opening of a UAE Embassy in Moscow. Valeriy Sukhin, deputy chief of the Press Department at the USSR Foreign Ministry, said that his country welcomes the practical steps by the UAE to open an embassy. He added: The Soviet diplomatic mission arrived in Abu Dhabi and is awaiting the nomination of an ambassador. He affirmed that diplomatic representation between the two countries would play a great role in increasing the exchange of trade between the two countries and in developing relations between them to serve the interests of the two peoples in all fields.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, Sukhin said that the USSR's principled stand is that it is a meaningless war which harms the interests of the two peoples and those of all peoples and countries in the region.

Concerning the Middle East crisis, he said: A just and comprehensive peace in the region cannot be achieved except by the Arab people and countries and not by the USSR, the United States, or any other party.

Concerning the reaons for not restoring diplomatic representation between Moscow and Riyadh, Sukhin said his country is ready to restore diplomatic representation with Saudi Arabia and that an invitation has been extended to Prince Faysal ibn Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz [chairman of the Saudi youth welfare organization] to visit the USSR. He said this visit would play a positive role in developing Saudi-USSR relations.

NICARAGUA STATES READINESS TO SIGN 'PEACE ACT'

PM141603 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Nicaragua's Readiness"]

[Text] Managua, 13 Apr -- The Nicaraguan leadership has declared its readiness to sign 6 June this year the "Peace Act" drawn up by the Contadora group with the aim of reaching a peaceful settlement of the Central American conflict on the condition that the United States totally ceases its aggressive actions against the republic. Exposition of this stand is contained in a Sandinist government statement in circulation here. Reaching an agreement acceptable to all five Central American states on those points in the latest version of the "Peace Act" relating to arms control and the holding of military maneuvers in the region must also be an immutable condition of a political solution to the region's acute problems, the document stresses.

The Nicaraguan Government statement points out that it is agreeable to continuing discussion of those aspects of the situation that has taken shape in the region over which differences still exist. Nicaragua also reaffirms its readiness to quickly resume talks with the United States -- talks unilaterally broken off by that country -- on normalizing relations.

Nicaragua, it notes further, is subjected to increasingly brutal aggression from the largest imperialist power. Washington's interference in the internal affairs of Central American countries is a scandalous violation of the UN Charter and the norms of international relations. The Nicaraguan leadership urged the government of the Contadora group countries and support groups to act while taking the situation in the region into consideration.

ANTI-U.S. DEMONSTRATIONS IN NICARAGUA REPORTED

LD162315 Moscow TASS in English 0815 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Managua April 16 TASS -- The people of Nicaragua are mobilizing their forces as the Reagan administration is toughening its policy of state terrorism.

Spontaneous meetings have been held at factories and state institutions in Managua in protest against the U.S. massive bombing raids against Libya and the White House's plans to wrest from Congress millions of dollars in aid to the Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries.

U.S. imperialism was an enemy of all nations that were defending their sacred right to freedom and independent development, said Lucio Jiminez, general secretary of Nicaragua's Sandinista trade union center.

He pointed out that the United States has trampled on Grenada's freedom and was encroaching on the sovereignty of Libya and Nicaragua. But it would fail to subordinate these countries to its diktat, he added.

The United States was again encroaching upon the elementary norms of international law, said Julio Lopes, head of the International Department of the Sandinista National Liberation Front.

In an interview with the newspaper, BARRICADA, he observed that irrespective of the outcome the debates at U.S. Congress on new allocations for the Somocista mercenaries were unlawful and immoral, and infringing the sovereignty of all of Latin America.

The Reagan administration, Lopes said, was setting on the escalation of the criminal war against Nicaragua, thus enhancing the threat of large-scale armed confrontation in the Central American region.

LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES CONDEMN ATTACK ON LIBYA

LD180800 Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Mexico City April 17 TASS -- A mass demonstration was held in the Mexican capital in protest against the U.S. bandit aggression against Libya. Demonstrators, chanting "murderers, hands off Libya," burned the U.S. flag outside the U.S. Embassy building.

Lima April 17 TASS -- The Senate and the Chamber of Deputies of Peru's congress have issued a special resolution condemning the U.S. aggression against Libya and calling it a threat to peace. The Chamber of Deputies urged the government to spearhead an international movement for ending aggressive actions against Libya.

Rio de Janeiro April 17 TASS -- Brazil's progressive forces resolutely condemn the U.S. aggression against Libya, Custodio Gomes Sobrinho, chairman of the Brazilian Society of Friendship and Cultural Links with the USSR, said in a TASS interview. The time is ripe for the people throughout the world to bring home their protests against the escalation of U.S. war preparations.

Quito April 17 TASS -- No one gave the American Administration the right to take the role of a judge and pass a verdict on a whole country and its prople, only because it dislikes the latter's independent policy, said Ecuador's former vice president, Leon Roldos Aguilera. Air raids of Libyan towns, done on President Reagan's personal orders, threaten the stability of the entire planet.

All conflicts must be solved only through peaceful means within the framework of existing international organisations, with no country assuming the right to rule the destinies of peoples.

Georgetown April 17 TASS -- Thousands of people gathered for a protest meeting outside the U.S. Embassy building in the Guyanese capital, keynoted by the slogans "hand off Libya" and "Yankees -- terrorists and murderers." A resolution, adopted by the participants in the meeting, accused Washington of pursuing a policy of state terrorism against those countries which wage struggle for genuine independence.

Buenos Aires April 17 TASS -- Thousands of people took part in a demonstration of protest here against the barbarous bombing of Libyan cities by U.S. planes. Demonstrators marched along the capital's central streets, denouncing the aggressor and demanding that the U.S. leave Libya in peace.

Havana April 17 TASS -- Meetings and demonstrations were held across Cuba in protest against the U.S. barbarous action and in solidarity with the Libyan people. The protesters regard the U.S. actions as a confirmation of the policy of state terrorism pursued by the Washington administration.

La Paz April 17 TASS -- Any armed aggression, undertaken at peacetime, aggravates the international situation and leads to the dangerous exacerbation of existing conflicts, Bolivia's Foreign Affairs Ministry pointed out in its statement. In the international year of peace, it is necessary to renounce any act of violence which may bring about unpredictable consequences for mankind.